

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL JOURNAL

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THREEPENCE.
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.

LENT, 1907.

EVERYMAN.—THREE SPECIAL MATINEES
of the Old Morality Play EVERYMAN, as originally Revived by the Elizabethan Stage Society, will be given, under the direction of Mr. POEL, on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, March 20 and 21, at the CORONET, W.; on SATURDAY, March 23, at KENNINGTON THEATRE, at 3.
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By Order of the Committee.
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Canton House, Westminster S.W.

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G. L. GOMME, Clerk of the London County Council.
Education Office, Victoria Embankment, W.C.,
March 4, 1907.

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LITERATURE

Studies in Humanism. By F. C. S. Schiller. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD is reputed to possess a school of philosophy that, for sheer size at all events, ranks second to none in the world. Hence the world has reason to interest itself in philosophic Oxford's present quandary. A recent, impartially unfriendly *bon mot* has stated this to consist in the dilemma, "Schiller—or Charybdis?" Humanism is felt to be low, for to be bidden *κατ' ἀνθρώπων φρονεῖν* is always humiliating. Absolutism is allowed to be somewhat "steep," not to say "high." Humanism offers no finalities to the reason, and we are all afraid of the dark. Absolutism, in Mr. Joachim's able and honest essay concerning the nature of truth, proclaims itself utterly baffled by this—for it the ultimate—problem. Humanism is suspected of sinister alliance with science—not, indeed, with the materialistic science of Spencer and Huxley, for that is dead, but with the pragmatic science of Bergson and Poincaré, of Mach and Ostwald. Absolutism, despite the anti-theological bias of its left wing, openly seeks support from religion on its pantheistic side. Humanism involves the spending of money on a psychological laboratory. Absolutism means the spending of time on Hegel's 'Logic.'

In a review it is impossible to do justice to the numberless side-issues of the fight in progress. The main principles at stake, however, are becoming clearer every day. It is probable that Dr. Schiller himself has now a better understanding of his method and objective than when first he discoursed on "axioms as postulates," or even when the new

philosophy of Humanism was afterwards expounded under the same name. It is certain that for others the bent of his thought has become easier to follow. This is, doubtless, due in part to the fact that, the need for controversy being less, more room is left for construction. Formerly Dr. Schiller, as one who would say unpopular things, had to shout for a hearing. To-day he is recognized—nay, is almost in danger of becoming respectable—and can afford to proceed more quietly and articulately. Lucid, indeed, his style of writing always was, no less than brilliant. His manner of thinking, however, was likely to remain somewhat perplexing for the average reader, until constant misrepresentation of his views had taught Dr. Schiller how necessary it was to explain himself slowly, systematically, and step by step for the benefit of those who read, not as they run (we never saw a philosopher attempt this feat), but as they smoke and slumber.

What is Humanism? And what its Transatlantic cousin, Pragmatism? Have we in either of them, or both of them a logic or a metaphysic, or both, or neither? Dr. Schiller does not shirk these questions. Both Humanism and Pragmatism, he says, are in themselves only methods, though, of course, if a man is wholly satisfied by a method, he may (but not without a change of attitude) adopt it as his metaphysic. So far as Humanism and Pragmatism are distinct, the former is the wider principle:—

"Humanism is really in itself the simplest of philosophic standpoints: it is merely the perception that the philosophic problem concerns human beings striving to comprehend a world of human experience by the resources of human minds."

Such a method, it is clear, is applicable universally—to ethics, to aesthetics, to metaphysics, to theology, to every concern of man, as well as to the theory of knowledge. Pragmatism, on the other hand, is Humanism in its purely epistemological capacity, the rule of "Man the measure" applied to the special problem of knowledge, or, better, of knowing. Dr. Schiller exuberantly provides, not one definition of the pragmatic thesis, but many, the various characterizations being, however, not inconsistent, but rather mutually supporting. We seem to be nearest to the intention of Mr. Peirce, the first formulator of the view, in the dictum that the truth of an assertion, or (since assertions, to become and to remain true, must be used, and thus are rules for action) the meaning of a rule, depends on its application. This definition carries with it the idea that truths are logical values, as also the closely connected notion that all meaning depends on purpose. In the background, though perhaps pertaining rather to Humanism than to Pragmatism in its narrower acceptance, is the view that all mental life is purposive. Further, a teleological psychology appears in the last resort to imply a voluntaristic metaphysic, and one that does full justice to human personality. Thus it might be objected by some that Dr. Schiller's

"method" is after all but a metaphysic, his essentially empirical order of procedure. He starts from an experiment. He has faith in it because it seems to work. Having faith in it, he applies it widely and ever more widely, until ultimate questions are faced and ultimate conclusions, not established indeed, yet more or less definitely suggested:—

"Thus Pragmatism may be taken to point to the ultimate reality of human activity and freedom, to the plasticity and incompleteness of reality, to the reality of the world-process 'in time,' and so forth. Humanism, in addition, may point to the personality of whatever cosmic principle we can postulate as ultimate, and to its kinship and sympathy with man."

No "system," however, in Dr. Schiller's view, can be more than a work of art bearing the impress of a unique and individual soul. What Prof. James is going to say in his long-expected treatise on metaphysic may well reflect an idiosyncrasy quite other than that which will divulge itself when Dr. Schiller comes to rewrite 'Riddles of the Sphinx,' the golden fruit of his pre-pragmatic youth.

As a specimen of the constructive work that, as we reckon, makes up exactly half the book, we should like to summarize the essay on 'The Making of Truth,' were it not that the argument is so subtle and profound, and withal so closely knit, as utterly to defy compression. Suffice it to say that, whilst traversing the old assumption that fact is independent, Dr. Schiller disclaims the notion that truth is created by us out of nothing. Meanwhile, for a logic that proposes to work, the right policy is, he maintains, to insist that truth does not come without seeking, or, more positively, that our beliefs, ideas, and desires are real forces which for us shape the world, whether the real making of reality be analogous to our own or no. This position is so severely practical, so completely in accordance with common sense, that it is bound to disgust the school which proclaims that to philosophize is to stand on your head—the same school, naturally, that identifies a liberal education with an intellectual gymnastic. A like deference to the ordinary experience of mankind marks the important chapter on 'Freedom.' Dr. Schiller does not adopt the *de haut en bas* tone of some philosophers towards physical science with its deterministic postulate. He simply insists—and the science of the day is not unwilling to agree—that such determinism is a postulate, a methodological assumption the truth of which is strictly relative to its explanatory function. Freedom, on the other hand, is in the moral sphere precisely such another postulate, with as good a right to exist if it can be used with like profit. But the freedom which morality requires is not that bogey of an absolute irresponsibility which occurs in popular travesties of the doctrine. The real postulate is to be learnt by a consideration of the moralist's real demand:—

"He wants to be able to say to the bad man: 'You need not have become the

leper you are. You might have moulded yourself otherwise.... Even now your case not wholly rigid. In God's universe no moral lapses are wholly irretrievable. Occasions therefore will present themselves in which, even for you, there will be real alternatives to evil-doing, and if you choose to do right, you may yet redeem yourself.' But he does not need or desire to say analogously to the good man: 'In spite of the deeply ingrained goodness of your habits, you are still free to do evil. May I live to see the day when you commit a crime and vindicate thereby your moral freedom!'"

The moralist, in short, demands an alternative to wrong action only. Moreover the empirical consciousness of freedom shows that moral choices are neither common, nor unrestricted, nor unconnected with character. Hence it is a limited, yet real indeterminateness for which Dr. Schiller claims a methodological validity on a par with the determinism of physics. But beyond ethics and physics alike there is metaphysics, and Humanism, as we have seen, though primarily a method, has no objection to make a metaphysical use of the suggestiveness of its own procedure. The doctrine of the making of reality points to the possibility of ascribing a measure of indeterminateness to anything. After all, liberty is not licence. The freer the man the more self-determined his action. A being higher and more perfect than a man, therefore, would work by law rather than by miracle just in so far as he really controlled the world: and it would be easy to misinterpret his agency, and to ascribe it to a mechanical necessity, were the proof of mechanism even more complete than it happens to be. But it is unfair thus to reproduce in mutilated form the most systematic and closely reasoned contribution to the literature of this subject which has appeared for many a long year.

Space forbids us to dilate on Dr. Schiller's controversial articles. "Plenty of hard hitting and no foul blows" sums up our impression. Time was when Dr. Schiller let out a bit wildly, it may be, as one who finds himself alone in the midst of a mob. Nowadays, when only the champions care to attack him, and that with circumspection, there is opportunity for observing all the courtesies of the duello. Indeed, personalities are few, and the brunt of Dr. Schiller's wit is mainly borne by bloodless abstractions. For example, the traditional logic hears itself abused thus:—

"It has been forced practically to abandon the attempt to account for knowing. It has been driven to represent the processes by which *de facto* knowledge is increased as logically invalid. Predication has become for it a puzzle, inference a paradox, proof an impossibility, discovery a wonder, change a contradiction, temporal succession incompatible with Science (which all the while is busily engaged with predicting the future!), individuality an irrelevance, experience an impertinence, sensation a piece of unmeaning nonsense, thinking 'extralogical,' and so forth and so on. After delivering itself of these valuable 'criticisms' of our ordinary cognitive procedures, it has retired into an

'ideal' world of its own invention, out of space, and of time, where it employs its ample leisure with studying 'types' that never lived on land or sea, and constructing a *hortus siccus* of 'forms,' and compiling unworkable 'systems,' and concocting unrealisable 'ideals' of 'Thought,' all of which have about as much relation to actual knowing and to human truth as the man in the moon! But even in its supra-sensible asylum the Erinyes of the Reality it has abandoned and betrayed pursue it. It cannot manipulate to its satisfaction even the figments and phantoms of the imaginary world which haunt it. Its 'forms' do not afford it aesthetic satisfaction; its 'types' are broken before they are ever used; its 'systems' will not hold together; its 'ideals' decline to be harmonious. In vain does it cry out to metaphysics to save it from immanent collapse into the abyss of scepticism; its cognate metaphysics have abundant troubles of their own, and are even more hopelessly involved in morasses that border the brink of the pit; they find, moreover, all the sciences beset by similar distresses, and can vouchsafe no answer save that the Real, at all events, does not appear, nor can what appears be real."

Or if the reader wither in the blast of so fierce an invective, let him turn to the Papyri of Philonous, where play the light airs of Platonic dialogue—in form, indeed, Platonic, but in matter a rehabilitation of that Protagoras whom long ago the 'Theætetus' inhumanly and inhumanistically sought to annihilate.

The American Scene. By Henry James. (Chapman & Hall.)

To read this latest book of Mr. Henry James is like tackling one of those exasperating puzzles called "mazes," with a little arbour in the middle, and a tangle of ways which all run up against something—unless you hit on "the only way." The things you run up against are of course connected with Mr. James's style and (what is largely the same thing) his way of thinking. Readers may conceive that, having mastered his novels, they can be daunted by nothing more. But in the novels the necessity of narration does sometimes oblige Mr. James to write almost like the kindly race of men. Here, "story, God bless you! he has none to tell, sir"; and throughout four hundred and sixty-five broad pages there is no oasis in the level, unbroken expanse of Jacobean style. He has seized so rare an opportunity relentlessly, and holds his audience in the toils like the Wedding-Guest; "the Mariner hath his will." Nor has his style improved with years. In this latest example it has an irritation once absent; for to the defects of his own qualities he has added carelessness. "There's no step," he writes, "at which you shall rest, no form, as I'm constantly showing you, to which, consistently with my interests, you can." Which seemingly means that there is no form to which we can rest—a construction scarcely to be dismissed as a grammatical licence. Later we read, "The great thing is not to suffer it to so much as begin,"

and sentences like this: "The present Public Library, however remarkable in its pomp and circumstance, and of which I had at that hour received my severe impression." Extremes meet. By the road of fastidious and defiant individuality Mr. James has, in fact, arrived at some of the results which the callow novelist achieves as a child of nature. With this he has the curiously contrasting vice of the Gallic use of the word "so": "From his so interesting point of view"; or again, "New York, with the so ambiguous element in the launched foreign personality," &c. This manner of idiom is sometimes harassingly frequent. Against the appearance of such symptoms in Mr. James's writing his admirers (among whom we are not the least sincere) have a right to protest; for these are not vices of style, but result from the want of it.

Though, however, they fret and exaggerate (by their needless slovenliness) one's sense of the difficulty, they are not the difficulty. That is in Mr. James's manner of thought. If you expect from him a guide-book to America, or a record of sightseeing as people in general understand sightseeing, you may close the book. It is an elaborated impression of America as it vibrates on the very conscious consciousness of Mr. Henry James—an impression on a minutely large scale. Yet it is not even impressionism as usually understood—the immediate sensitive impression of eye and emotion, stripped of afterthought and analysis. That would not be Mr. James, who is nothing if not analytic. Rather, it is the application to sightseeing of the methods of Mr. James the novelist—an endeavour first to capture, then to tease out and analyze the elusive subtleties of human atmosphere and suggestion in scenes and localities. We say "human atmosphere and suggestion," since for nature, apart from its connexion and reciprocal interaction with man, the novelist can spare little interest. And the novelist in Mr. James is always hankering after elusive subtleties, always aiming at them, even when he fails to get them. The result, whether one thinks it successful or not, is something curious—and very tough reading. For, despite this inveterate quest of the elusive, gendered in him by the calling of a lifetime, the ideas suggested to Mr. James by a revisited "American scene" are inevitably, at bottom, often much what might occur to any other reflective observer. But the expression does not accommodate itself to the relative obviousness of idea. That must still preserve all the paraphernalia of elusiveness, though there is nothing which eludes. He must still write about and around it, and every way but of it—must approach it by stealth and tortuous indirectness, and deck it with the most elaborated precisions of impreciseness, as if it required hinting afar off. He must (habitual microscopist!) still use his delicate microtome, though only to make sections of butter. The language invented, and the manner

of thought developed, for his psychological subtleties he uses for matters the most familiar, and so reduces them to a strange, phantasmal abstraction of their workaday selves, bafflingly implying subtlety which is not in them. It is more difficult to follow than really inherent subtlety. For through the swathings you laboriously arrive at relative commonplace, and strenuous attention exerted to such a result exhausts one more than if the evasive expression had been compelled by a true evasiveness of idea.

Mr. James, for example, staggered by the huge alien masses of the United States, and especially of New York, wonders, like other thinkers, what will issue from the Americanization of them which is furiously going forward, and recoils from answer. He tells you that, among the vast numbers newly cast into the machine (so to speak), the most striking feature is their featurelessness, the dead blank of monotonous uniformity which has resulted. He regrets, in particular (and with a special eye on the Italians), the loss of those racial amenities which make various nations engaging to the traveller's observation in their own land. The Italian has no longer the soft and amiable address universal in Italy. And these traits of national charm go with instant swiftness and absolute completeness: they are cast off on contact with the soil, as if they were contraband, and confiscated at the custom-house. This, in effect, Mr. James has to say. It is interesting, but not very difficult to say, one would think. Mr. James contrives to say it at great length, with an accumulation of every Jacobean resource for uttering the unutterable; so that when you exhaustedly look back and note what he *has* said, you can scarce credit your memory that this, essentially, is all.

To render any account, any description, of a book so written is manifestly impossible. It is not to be read through like other books, but should be taken up and read slowly by portions, when one is in a mood for the effort. So doing, you will find suggestion enough and to spare. For it is, after all, Mr. James; and what counts in it is less the subject than the author. The point is that such is the way things affected Mr. James. It happens to be America—it might have been Astrakhan or the Samoyedes; the main interest would have been the same, so long as there were men, and Mr. James, insatiably curious, watching them. He does not describe, he gives no information; he exposes himself to impressions, and discusses and analyzes the result. Very characteristically, he mostly ends by leaving the result an open question; he is indisposed to commit himself even as to what his impression is after all. His attitude is curiously dispassionate, critical, and a-patriotic rather than unpatriotic. The colossal utilitarianism and restless mutability of the American atmosphere stir him to perpetual hostility. Everywhere he finds the America of his

own day "coming down," and declares "coming down" to be the law of American life, fatal to all association. America is a top, which stands only on condition that it perpetually "hums"—in the most American sense of that word. Yet it interests him, even the modern city with its "sky-scrapers" that provoke him to blasphemy against the American idea; for it is human, and the novelist in him perpetually speculates on the possibilities of its evolving charm. It is a gigantic note of interrogation; he can neither answer it, nor cease from subtilizing on what answer the future may give. A good example of his manner is the chapter on the Bowery, with the contrast between the alien audience of its theatre, munching sausages as in their German homes, and the conventionally American play at which they stare; or the account of the immense impression made on him by the Ghetto of New York, prosperous, a New Jerusalem, the strong Judaic features dominating its streets with aggressive vitality. These things are impressions, singularly communicated, of a singular commixture, yet only possible from a unique personality.

Never can one forget the novelist. The book has an effect as of a man who in a dream makes struggling motions of running. We have the feeling that we should know better Mr. James's revised perceptions of New York or Boston if he made those cities the scene even of a short story, than we do from this minutely complex *compte rendu* of them. Further, he seems (to us) always wanting to write that story. He says of himself that he was always wanting to *get inside* the picture. When he quits the city for the country, where poet or painter would be content with the solitary charm of nature, he is restless to penetrate its human meaning, to discover in it the soul of its inhabitants: lonely loveliness which will surrender no such message leaves him but half-pleased. Were he not busy with other matters, no man could give you the impression of it in fewer touches. Read, for instance, this of Cape Cod:—

"A broad band of deep and clear blue sea... limited in one quarter by its far and sharp horizon of sky, on the other by its near and sharp horizon of yellow sand overfringed with a low woody shore; the whole seen through the contorted cross-pieces of stunted, wind-twisted, far-spreading, quite fantastic old pines and cedars, whose bunched bristles at the end of long limbs, produced against the light the most vivid of all reminders. Cape Cod, on this showing, was exactly a pictured Japanese screen or banner."

He throws off Cotuit with a pen-scratch or two:—

"The little white houses, the feathery elms, the band of ocean blue, the stripe of sandy yellow, the tufted pines in angular silhouette, the cranberry-swamps strung across, for the picking, like the ruled pages of ledgers."

You retain a distinct impression of the New Hampshire villages: the long straight road, the double file of verdurous

branching elms, the white-painted wooden walls splashing the shadow with bright coolness, the far horizons that "recall the Umbrian note." But from all this, and through all this, he zigzags and feels his verbose way to the hesitant conclusion that these are the paradise and sphere of the "common man" and woman, the passive and negative people who "simply invest themselves for you in the grey truth that they don't go to the public-house." That description of them is in turn debated into dubiety, with as meticulous an earnestness. The rest is a felicitous incident: this it is that interests him. He is throughout instinctively seeking psychological problems as a dislodged limpet seeks a rock or stone to fasten on. You will be gratified with all manner of incidental felicities by the way, such as the half-revealed glimpses of the delicate shyness of Newport; but you must go problem-seeking to get them. Nor must you care overmuch about the results reached. We doubt whether the tabulated conclusions of the whole book (but who shall formulate them?) would yield much new light on the States or even their possibilities. The pleasure of the chase must content. Distinctly it is the process rather than the result that fascinates Mr. James, and you must let it fascinate you. That is how we are reduced to take this tantalizing, endlessly clever, engaging, perverse, compelling and repelling by-product of the most fastidiously probing mind in present literature. As the peculiar and specialized methods of a novelist applied to a purpose outside fiction, it may or may not be successful. Interesting it must be—with the interest Browning felt in Dante's drawing of the angel, and we all feel in the essay of a great specialist in an art outside his own. Not even slipshod blemishes can make Mr. James's style other than distinguished, as Mayfair may drop its *g's*, which Bayswater neglects at its peril.

Life of Isabella Bird (Mrs. Bishop). By Anna M. Stoddart. (John Murray.)

THIS is a remarkable work, and apart from its interest as a book of travel, it illustrates to an unusual degree the power which the mind and will are able to exercise over the body. Miss Bird suffered all her life from a physical malady which was enough to make her a permanent invalid, yet she made journeys and underwent hardships which might well have tried the endurance of the strongest. For her, discomforts, storms, and stress had no terrors. Often when travelling, though she was incapable of mounting her horse without help, she would ride all day.

Miss Bird was born at Boroughbridge Hall on October 15th, 1821, and from her youth was of a delicate nature. Her upbringing was, however, of a somewhat Spartan character, and her temperament was one that disdained comforts. As a child she was much with her father, who took a pleasure in training her to practise readiness of resource and courage in

emergencies. We find a striking instance of the exercise of these qualities when she was still young. While staying at Winchester House, St. James's Square, on one occasion

"she had taken a cab from the railway station, and while driving out of the gate received on her lap a small parcel of advertisements, which... was thrown in at the open window. Putting it on the seat in front of her, she noticed another parcel lying, evidently left by the former 'fare.' She opened it, and found papers inside giving details of a plot to assassinate a member of the Cabinet at the approaching funeral of the Duke of Wellington. She had scarcely put them into her pocket, when she heard a voice stopping the cab, and a dark foreign-looking man addressed her at the window. He asked if a parcel had been found in the cab. At once she handed to him the little bundle of advertisements, and after a minute's progress bade the driver hasten to the Home Office, when she insisted on seeing the Minister, in whose hands she placed the papers. So serious did the matter appear to the Home Office that, while she remained at Winchester House, a detective was posted there to guard her against the vengeance of those whose plans she had frustrated."

Two years later, as ill-health still pursued her, Miss Bird was recommended to try a sea voyage. Acting on this advice, she started for Canada, and made an interesting tour to the chief places of note. From that day to the end of her life she was an inveterate traveller and writer of books. Australia, the Sandwich Islands, and the Rocky Mountains were the next foreign lands she visited, and in the Rockies she met with an adventure which illustrates the emotional side of her character. She had as her guide through the mountain passes a man named Nugent, who was known as "Mountain Jim." In this man Miss Bird took a lively interest, and at their parting interview it was agreed between them that "after death... the one taken would appear to the other." During the following year she was in Switzerland, and as she lay in bed one morning, "she saw Mountain Jim in his trapper's dress... standing in the middle of the room. He bowed low to her and vanished. ... When exact news of his death arrived, its date coincided with that of the vision."

Her more interesting journeys were, however, eastward instead of westward, and probably a tour she took through Japan was the one which appealed most to her imagination. After having visited the usual sights, she betook herself to the unbeaten tracks of the empire, and crossed to the island of Yezo, inhabited by the hairy Ainos. Among these primitive people she took up her temporary abode. She had evidently the art (shared by General Gordon) of winning the confidence of uncivilized people. By the Ainos she was received with every sign of pleasure, and though the board and lodging were of the roughest kind, they satisfied all her requirements.

On her return from this expedition she married Dr. Bishop, of Edinburgh, who had learnt to appreciate the attractiveness of her character and the charm of her

conversation. The union was not destined to be for long. Dr. Bishop, who was not strong, died in 1886, and his widow was then free to resume her travels. After a short visit to Ireland she went to the northern frontier of India, and found her way through Kashmir to the borders of Tibet. She writes that Tibet

"is most interesting, and in some respects wonderful, but living at an altitude varying from 11,000 to 17,000 ft. has not improved my health. I feel very weak."

Not satisfied with the hardships she was compelled to endure in this region, she straightway undertook a still more difficult journey through the confines of Persia, and so on to Teheran. That she should have survived this last journey is a miracle. Six of her followers died of fatigue, while many others were in "a desperate condition." Under the restful influences of the British Legation she recovered her energies; and on her arrival in London at 6 A.M. on December 26th, 1890, she had sufficient vigour to breakfast with Mr. and Mrs. Murray, to lunch with Sir Alfred and Lady Lyall, and travel next day to Edinburgh.

Once again she went to the Far East, and returned to recognize that her travelling days were done. In the spring of 1902 she was seized with a serious malady, which two years later proved fatal.

Her death left the world distinctly the poorer. By her friends the loss of her sympathetic nature and charm of manner was deeply felt, while the public generally could not fail to regret that there were no more remarkable books to come from her. Miss Stoddart had a good subject for a biography in Isabella Bird, and she has reflected her life both faithfully and ably. The result is that she has written an excellent book.

The Fool of the World, and other Poems.
By Arthur Symons. (Heinemann.)

Studies in Seven Arts. By the same author. (Constable & Co.)

Is it possible to master the art of poetry after mastering the art of prose? Is the poetic ear compatible with the prose ear? After reading these books, one of poetry and one of prose, we are inclined to say no. Mr. Symons has the prose ear. He is one of the few living writers whose prose moves with their emotion as the dancer's steps move with the music. The music with which prose moves is in the brain of the writer, and he is himself half its slave and half its master. It is the rhythm of emotion acting through thought upon expression. The emotion of the artist transforms thought as it is turning into style, producing a rhythm which fills the reader with the original emotion. In the artist it is the emotion which produces the rhythm. In the reader it is the rhythm which produces the emotion. This is the true sense in which art is immortal, for the emotion which is perfectly represented in the rhythm of words, or marble, or colour, or sounds, cannot die

so long as there are souls in which it may live. Art is the transmigration of emotion.

Mr. Symons is one of the most accomplished writers that we have. His prose is not like that unrhythmical stuff which the newspapers have imposed upon literature. It is not always sincere, but it is elegantly pensive, plaintively delicate, and wistfully refined. It is composed in that minor key which Pater invented, the sentences following each other like a sad procession of moans and sighs. It walks veiled, like a girlish widow in gossamer weeds who wears her grief with a luxurious grace. It is strange that his manner, when it becomes verse, loses the charm of prose without gaining the charm of poetry. Its sedulous artifice no longer delights the expectant ear. Its steps are uncertain, and its gestures cease to flow into each other. It moves clumsily in the robes of rhyme and the garlands of rhythm. The space between the beginning and the end of a line is too strait for its limbs. It vainly tries to pack its irregular cadences into the iambic verses. There is a perpetual conflict between the vague laws of prose movement and the still more vague laws of poetic rhythm. The words are delicately chosen, but they are dislocated by the metrical barriers. They fall at every fence. The prose ear tries to evade the poetic obstacles. It seeks to weaken the rich emphasis of rhyme by a lavish use of imperfect rhymes, such as:—

Bramble, fern and bulrushes,
Honeysuckle and honey-bees,....
Rainy laughter, twilight whirr,
The night-hawk and the woodpecker.

It rhymes such words as "happiness" and "quietness," "noise" and "voice," "tossed" and "ghost," "carouse" and "house," "says" and "face." It also fails to avoid the unconscious use of comic rhymes such as:—

Hark, from fields where they browse,
Complaining voices of cows.

The true poetic ear could not err thus, nor could the prose ear, if it were not working in the poetic medium. Mr. Symons seldom falls into jingling dissonances when he is writing prose, but his poetry is strown with discords in rhyme and infelicities of rhythm. It seems to us that his long practice and mastery of prose make it difficult for him to write poetry with ease. He cannot help aiming at prose effects such as that in the line: A melancholy and insatiable and inexplicable noise.

He is always striving to carry the line violently over the rhyme:—

Like quiet waters flowing over the loud day's
Brightness.

for these are Christ's

Apostles.

As if those windy bodies with the sea's
Unfriended heart.

The poetic ear rarely uses this device, and then uses it for a precise reason; but the prose ear, having remembered the device, uses it without any reason at all. The texture of the style is also that of prose. Mr. Symons uses prose epithets such as "the absolute rose." The poetic ear could not begin a poem with a line like this:—

God is : and because life omnipotent.

The poetic ear is not enchanted with the double rhyme in this stanza :—

All the leaves of the valley are glad,
And the birds too,
If they had words to,
Would tell of the joy they had.

The writer yields to the false quaintness of such a rhyme as

I sit
Under a tree and gaze at it.

Mr. Symons is in the same galley with other distinguished prose-writers. Tennyson deliberately refrained from writing prose because he knew that it would injure his style. The failure of a great prose-poet like Ruskin to write verse shows the gulf which divides the two methods. One would naturally suppose that it would have been easy for Ruskin to master the technique of poetry and to turn his prose-poetry into verse. But in point of fact Ruskin failed to achieve that miracle. Mr. Watts-Dunton, in his introduction to the volume of "The World's Classics" containing "The Professor, and the Poems of Charlotte, Emily, and Anne Brontë," has some acute remarks on this subject :—

"Is it not a fact that nothing acts as so serious a handicap to the poet when at work as the very skill he has acquired as a writer of prose? Does not the reminiscence of prose methods at times come up to baffle him? With regard to Charlotte Brontë, it is manifest that her sense of prose rhythm does this the moment she begins to write in verse."

It may be said that there are exceptions, such as Scott, Byron, Shelley, and Mr. Meredith; but they are not real exceptions. Scott never mastered poetic form, and, moreover, he wrote his poems before his hand became subdued to prose. The same may be said of Mr. Meredith's best poems. As to Byron and Shelley, their prose was not an artistic vehicle for imaginative energy, but the casual stuff of the letter-writer.

Although Mr. Symons has not mastered poetic form, his poetry is full of sensitive beauty. "The Fool of the World" is a morality play which recalls "Everyman." It was acted last year in London, and pleased the present reviewer with its decoratively sepulchral *naïveté*. The lines spoken by the Spade are typical :—

I am the builder of the house
Which Death to every guest allows.
I dig the sure foundations deep
In the stony soil of sleep;
There is no noise about the doors,
No noise upon the ancient floors,
Only the graveworm's dusty feet
Walk softly to and fro in it.

Sometimes Mr. Symons uses inartistic images. This is an example :—

Are you not the crying of the Earth on her outraged bed,
Against Man, who has got her with child, to her father
God?

W. E. Henley once compared spring to a harlot, but even that image is not so infelicitous as this. "The Chopin Player" is a curious paraphrase in verse of a story in "Spiritual Adventures." It is an imperfect Petrarchan sonnet, with four rhymes in the octaves, including "flame"

and "them." Yet it is one of the most perfectly finished poems in the volume. But the most powerful and most passionate poem of all is "An Epilogue to Love." It is a critical analysis which calls for the prose of Mr. Henry James rather than for poetry, but it is nevertheless a fine dissection of passionate moods :—

Love now, my heart, there is but now to love;
Seek nothing more, but let it be enough
That one desire, one moment, melts in yours.
Hold the one moment fast; nothing endures,
And as the past was shall the future be;
O heart, hold fast the present. Then to me
My heart: What is the present? There is none.
Has not the sigh after the kiss begun
The future? and the past was in the kiss.
Then to my heart I said: O heart, if this
Be life, then what is love? And my heart said:
Desire of things unborn or things long dead.

The poem contains the most human lines that Mr. Symons has ever written. The closing lines of Section V. are extremely fine, and nothing could be more subtle than Section VII., which shows spiritual ecstasy melting into sensuousness.

Mr. Symons would probably be surprised if we were to say that the title of his new collection of essays savours of audacity, but we may hint that it is not given to any man to know much about seven arts. He explains that he has dealt with poetry and literature in his other books, and that in this book he deals with painting, sculpture, architecture, music, handicraft, the stage (in which he includes drama, acting, pantomime, scenery, costume, and lighting), and dancing. These studies are mainly the sensitive impressions of the connoisseur, but their value is largely literary. It is agreeable to read this cunning prose, but we must not be forbidden to challenge some of its pontifical assumptions. For instance, when we are told that we ought to "look on each art as of absolutely equal value," we are tempted to say that dancing is not equal in value to sculpture, that sculpture is not equal in value to painting, and that none of them is equal in value to music. The charm, however, of these essays lies not in their critical or technical exactitude, but in their incomparably delicate impressionism. They are suffused with an imaginative egoism which translates Rodin, Moreau, Watts, Whistler, Manet, Monet, Rossetti, Monticelli, Velasquez, Beethoven, Wagner, Strauss, Duse, the Théâtre de l'Œuvre, pantomime, and ballet into the terms of the writer's personality. Their prose is a kind of personal confession, a monologue of moods. The essay on Duse is an imaginary portrait trembling with a visionary passion that troubles and haunts the memory. As one reads these essays one seems to live through vague and shadowy sensations and dimly remembered emotions. They are the diary of an attenuated taste wandering among the ghosts of beauty, seeking to find itself, yet always losing itself afresh, persistently hungry, but never satiated with the banquet of art, flying from the clutches of life, yet never wholly escaping, refining its refinements, and eternally clasping its own shadow.

NEW NOVELS.

The Memories of Ronald Love. By Mary E. Mann. (Methuen & Co.)

THIS is a very tender and graceful book, a model of what expert craftsmanship can accomplish. From beginning to end there is nothing in the plot; it is merely the first few years of a child's life as seen through the mist and veil of time. We gather that Ronald Love, who tells his story impersonally, is an old man and the days of which he writes are mid-Victorian. Mrs. Mann calls up that far-gone and depressing period so that it lives again. We hear the creak of the crinoline, and we see our fathers and grandfathers with tall hats and side-whiskers. The child is a love-child, and the author manages to arrest our sympathy and interest for Ronald's foolish, vulgar, pretty mother, if less for his father. A good deal of the story is taken up with the boy's experiences at school, which are almost as severe as those reported by Dickens. Yet there is no caricature anywhere, and we are conscious all the time that Mrs. Priestley's seminary did exist, and harboured the awful persons who held sway in it. A grimy story is suggested in the background, which, artistically, never obtrudes. In short, Mrs. Mann has fully revived the atmosphere of the time, and has, moreover, written with cordial sympathy her sad little tale. Her latest book is only one more witness to her high place among contemporary novelists.

Little Esson. By S. R. Crockett. (Ward, Lock & Co.)

THIS is a sample of Mr. Crockett's characteristics on a smaller scale than most. It tells of Creelport on Dee, and the days of the failure of the Glasgow Bank. Its portraits of kindly Scots are vivid as usual. We find pathos, too, in the strange marriage of Mina Hilliard and her artist, and manhood in Little Esson's self-sacrificing love. But the disagreeable side of the book is unduly prominent. The decayed "gentleman" who beats his daughter; the vulgar widow of the contractor; the "Green Girl," liar and forger, her child; the egregious Hunter Mayne, her co-conspirator—all these are not drawn with subtlety enough to make up for their squalid villainies. Nor do we care for the interpolation of Little Esson's wanderings with that rather clownish jester Calvinus McCron and his wall-eyed horse. But we can forgive this padding for the sake of James Houlison, ex-gardener to the ruined minister, who, when his master will not have him in the garden, insists upon trimming the road side of the fence.

The Angel and the Outcast. By G. Colmore. (Hutchinson & Co.)

THE lady who calls herself G. Colmore has joined the ranks of the reforming novelists, and may aid the cause of the vegetarians by the terrible and realistic

picture she gives in her new novel of the brutally careless and cruel methods by which the beasts that are to provide our beef and mutton are first landed and then slaughtered at Deptford. It is here that Yan, the Outcast, has her home, and from here that her little half-sister the Angel is removed, at a very tender age, to be reared amongst the refinements and in the ultra-conventional atmosphere of her adopted parents' home in Kensington. Yan's passionate and jealous love for the child who has been taken from her enables her to rise to the heights of renunciation, only to drive her afterwards into the depths of vicious living as an escape from the intolerable loss she has sustained. The book cannot fail to be infinitely depressing, and the fact that the Outcast is responsible for the carriage accident whereby the Angel is enabled to marry *en secondes nocces* the man of her later choice, and her fair name is saved from scandal, is not a satisfying conclusion. Lilian Fayre, the Angel, is a good example of the unimpeachable type of young womanhood, which, having no aspirations beyond the level of its own surroundings, meets with unfailing and ready-made success in life rather than achieves it. The West End scenes in which she plays the part of heroine are certainly pleasanter, but also less arresting, than the grim picture of the slaughter-houses at Deptford.

Temptation. By Richard Bagot. (Methuen & Co.)

MR. BAGOT's new novel is an elaborate study in psychology, which, however, is in its course as engrossing as any mere narrative of incidents. There is little action in it until the close, which is tragical and catastrophic; but as we are prepared by many careful and deft touches for this finale, we find it natural, if not inevitable. The portrait of her husband's remote ancestor who poisoned her lover is an obsession and an inspiration to the Countess Vitali, who renews in the family the guilt of a predecessor. But the setting and the atmosphere are modern, and the Italy of to-day is the environment of a sexual drama of considerable interest. Mr. Bagot is well known for his Italian studies, and he is as much at home with these provincial portraits as in Rome. Ugo, the hapless Count, his wife Cristina, the Duchess of San Felice, and Fabrizio, the guilty cousin, are all human figures. It says much for the author that he is able to keep us interested in the progress of the intrigue through nearly four hundred pages. Mr. Bagot works with great care, yet his persons are not overdrawn. Cristina is obvious to us almost from the outset, and we watch the gradual evolution of her crime with horrified fascination. It is a powerful drama, and discloses Mr. Bagot at his best.

The Blue Star. By Kate Murray. (E. Grant Richards.)

It is not easy to say what part the mystic sapphires play in the resuscitation of

Henriette from her cataleptic trance. She is the child of a French noble and a peasant woman, and is supposed to be dead when her body is sold by her stepfather to one Paterson, a scientific student. Under his care his patient, formerly anæmic, and ugly from chronic bad health, is nursed into splendid vigour and beauty. But she still slumbers, and her awakening involves the substitution of another sleeper. A volunteer is found in the returned lover of Paterson's own wife, who has reduced the poor Anatole to despair by her marriage during his seven years' absence. The transfer and its circumstances are described with realistic ingenuity. The doctor's difficulty is with the soul. Henriette is delighted with her new life, and in love with her new beauty, but has no jot of sympathy or conscience, and little recollection of the past. Her social career in this soulless stage involves many adventures, some of which have a tinge of the cerulean star; but on the whole they are discreetly handled, and the eventual awakening of heart and conscience is tragically complete. The power of this conception and the generally good characterization make amends for some unpleasant passages.

For Maisie. By Katharine Tynan. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

MAISIE, a destitute, though highly connected orphan, was adopted by a working builder of the type dear to Samuel Smiles, and in accordance with the canons of fiction she repaid her benefactor by exercising a softening influence upon his nature. It must not be supposed, however, that the said benefactor belongs to the conventional or "goody-goody" order; his personality, on the contrary, is vigorous and well sustained. The analysis of his horrible ambitions, and their accomplishment by the conversion of an ideal country neighbourhood into a mass of mean streets and cheap villas, is the best thing in the book. For the rest, we have much pleasant writing and some love-complications not of the most exciting order. There is no mention of Ireland or the Irish.

Privy Seal. By Ford Madox Hueffer. (Alston Rivers.)

MR. HUEFFER has sacrificed lucidity to a zealous regard for fidelity to his period. Indeed, we are of opinion that he is too faithful to the speech and manners of the times, which can hardly have resulted in such difficult conversations as pass between the characters of his story. It is a clever story, and well designed, and it carries on the history of Henry VIII. to the fall of Cromwell and the triumph of Katharine Howard. Mr. Hueffer's chief success is in his portrait of Katharine, though she is, like the rest of the persons here, tiresomely inarticulate at times. Mr. Hueffer might have eliminated some "local colour" with advantage; yet through his medium, and whatever his methods, these people stand out as living.

Throckmorton, the spy, the shameless magister, Nicholas Udal, Katharine, Culpepper, Henry, Cromwell, are all vividly realized. Mr. Hueffer has undoubtedly a considerable talent for historical fiction, but he would probably find a less remote period easier. Also, his readers would find it more interesting. There is in these pages a humanity so alien that it must repel sympathy. Some one has said that a novelist is wise who goes no further back than modern times, which date, according to theory, from the accession of Charles II. At least mediæval England is hard to understand and revivify, and Henry VIII. stood for the last thunderstorm of mediævalism. Mr. Hueffer, we understand, is to complete his trilogy, begun with 'The Fifth Queen.' After that we hope he will attack some theme in which his powers will tell better.

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.

A Varied Life: a Record of Military and Civil Service, of Sport and of Travel in India, Central Asia, and Persia, 1849-1902. By General Sir Thomas E. Gordon. (John Murray.)—It is difficult to say whether the main interest here lies in the military, administrative, travelling, or sporting career of the author. In all directions he recounts much of value and importance; though India has seen many changes since his experiences of the country.

But not only in India have radical changes taken place. When young Gordon desired to join the ranks, commission by purchase was in vogue; and as he was of a poor but gallant stock, the 450*l.* demanded was a serious stumbling-block. Fortunately, however, a friend intervened, and on July 20th, 1850, he sailed for India in the *Agincourt*, a Green's ship of 1,000 tons. On December 11th he landed in Calcutta, and at once proceeded up country. In those days there were no passenger railways in India, nor were there any horse carriages for the first 400 miles above Calcutta. The new arrival had therefore to take his place in a carriage dragged by coolies until Benares was reached. The road was infested with robbers, and it was only by the greatest good fortune that he escaped their attentions.

From the first he diversified his military duties with sporting expeditions, and he has many stories to tell of his adventures in the plains and jungles. On one occasion he writes:—

"We had good sport in the Narbada jungles after tigers, killing, with others, two well-known and much-feared 'man-eaters.' The first of these lay low in the long grass and feathery bush cover until we were close upon him, and then, having laid aside the fear of man—for he had killed and eaten a herdsman twelve days before, and another but a short time previously—he rose straight at us before he was attacked, but fell dead with a bullet raking his spine and another behind the left shoulder, both fatal shots. The second man-eater tried to steal away, but was met by a blank cartridge fire from the 'stops,' and then came back in a howling fury, and looked for a victim. He first made for Davidson, but catching sight of my head as my elephant steed descended into a dry watercourse, he dropped and crawled in the grass, without giving Davidson a chance, and tried to spring at me in the howdah. I met him just in time with a bullet in the breast, which dropped him at the elephant's feet; but he was up and on the right side of the elephant's head in a moment, and, in trying to reach me, broke the front part of the howdah with a blow of his powerful forepaw.

The driver slipped his right leg, which had been protected by the elephant's apron-like ear, over to the left, receiving a scratch from the tiger, and held on, urging the animal, in the language known to mahout and elephant, to beat, kick, and crush the yellow monster. The elephant was badly bitten and clawed on the trunk and head, and her right eye was blinded by the eyebrow being torn down over it. She gave voice to suppressed screams of fear, pain, and rage, and made the most violent efforts to shake the tiger off. My Bhil gun-bearer behind me in the howdah, regarding the situation as desperate, after handing me my rifle, slid down the elephant's hindquarters, and took refuge in a tree. All I could do was to hold on to the back of the howdah, the front being broken, and watch an opportunity to fire safely, for the tiger was in such a position that it was impossible at first for me to attempt to use my rifle without seriously injuring the elephant. I had no thought of myself, but only of the Rs. 1,500 (the value of the elephant) that shot might cost me. At last I had a safe chance to put the muzzle against the tiger's side behind the shoulder, having to grasp and use the rifle with one hand like a pistol, while I held on to the back of the swaying howdah with the other. One shot (it was an expanding bullet), and with a great growl of agony from the tiger, and a trumpet yell of rage from the elephant, the whole of us were struggling loose in the high bushes."

But advance in his profession was the main object of the author, and with this end he early took to the study of Hindustani and Persian. These acquirements procured for him his part in the Douglas Forsyth mission to Kashgar, and later the office of military attaché at Teheran. The genesis of the Kashgar expedition was curious. As a result of the widespread rebellion against Chinese rule in Central Asia, the Atalik Ghazi, as Yakub Khan was designated by the Sultan of Turkey, established an empire over Eastern Turkistan, and then, in order to strengthen his position, dispatched an envoy to India and Constantinople. This emissary was well received at Simla, and at his request a return mission was arranged under the leadership of Sir Douglas Forsyth and Col. Gordon, as he then was. A somewhat similar state of things had before this time existed in the Chinese province of Yunnan, where a Mohammedan leader had established his rule, and had sent an envoy to London in 1872 to enlist the sympathies of the British Government in his venture. The reference to a foreign Power aroused the sleeping energies of the Chinese, who poured troops into the revolted province and put down the rebellion in their usual ruthless fashion. This action was repeated in Kashgar. Douglas Forsyth's expedition had scarcely returned to India when the Chinese Viceroy, Tso Tsung-t'ang, led a huge army against the revolting province. He had already recovered the important town of Turfan when an event happened which placed the whole of Kashgaria at the mercy of the Chinese. This was the sudden death of the Atalik, which occurred on the 29th of May [1877]. He is said to have been murdered by one of his own officers—an old brother-in-arms. His death became the signal for a general revolution, which prepared the way for the advance of the Chinese to the capital, and their easy reconquest of the whole country.

Thus incidentally our interference brought about the reconquest of Kashgaria by the Chinese as a similar intervention had led to the recovery by China of the province of Yunnan. But though politically our expedition proved a failure, its geographical results were important, and as a specimen of courageous endurance it was unsurpassed. The changes of temperature were extreme, and in the space of two months the party exchanged the heat of Rawal Pindi (100°) for the cold of Aktagh, on the Yarkand frontier, where

a minimum thermometer placed in the open air registered a temperature of 24° Fahr. below zero. Such is more or less the winter temperature of that inhospitable land, and enduring it the expedition had to make forced marches through deep snow in order to keep up their communications. The difficulty also of keeping to the little-known track was great, as in some parts their only recent European precursor was Wood, the traveller who in 1838 came by this way to the great Pamir lake; "and he was the first since Marco Polo's time in 1272." But neither of these travellers accomplished the feat of Col. Gordon, who made the passage of the whole Pamir steppe "from east to west by one route, and back again from west to east by another."

It is needless to say that after this expedition Col. Gordon was marked out for promotion. He was given high commands, and on the outbreak of the war with Afghanistan he was kept well to the front. At its close he was gazetted C.B. In 1891 he was appointed Military Attaché at Teheran, and most interesting are the chapters which he devotes to his residence in the Shah's capital. The whole book is well worth reading.

We must congratulate Col. James P. Robertson, C.B., on the production of an eminently readable and entertaining book entitled *Personal Adventures and Anecdotes of an Old Officer* (Arnold). His publisher hazarded the remark, "Some of your adventures are almost incredible," a sentiment which most readers will endorse, even when ready to extend to its full limit their confidence in the author's assurance "that I only put down facts." Yet he has survived all his trials, and can now write:—

"But here I am at the patriarchal age of eighty-four, able to take a twenty-mile run or more on my bike, and without a mark or damage on my face, but please remember that I have been for many years a total abstainer, and I never went into any fight or battle on anything stronger than cold tea."

Col. Robertson has had an adventurous life. He went to sea, after his mother's second marriage, in one of Wigram & Green's East Indiamen, and made the voyage to Calcutta and back. Next he visited Jamaica soon after the emancipation of the slaves, and developed yellow fever on his way home. On arrival he was advised to give up the sea and join the army, which he did after going through a course at the Military Academy of Edinburgh. He was gazetted to the 31st Foot, and embarked for Calcutta early in 1842 to join his regiment, which was in Afghanistan "avenging the massacre of the 44th Regiment." He did not get so far, but after adventures with alligator, cobra, and tiger, joined at Umbala. From this station the regiment naturally served throughout the first Sikh War, of which our author has many remarkable tales to tell. Then he got home again, but was soon off to the Ionian Islands and the Crimea. Having seen the end of that war, he was next ordered to China; but the force was diverted to India on the outbreak of the Mutiny. Here, in the Military Train, he served under Sir Colin Campbell and Outram. He met Havelock shortly before that good man's death; Napier of the Engineers, afterwards Lord Napier of Magdala; and Sir W. H. Russell, whom he had known in the Crimea. After seeing much service he was invalided home, and got brevet promotion, C.B., and eventually the rank of colonel.

"After seven years' service in that rank, a Liberal and highly economical Government resolved to disband the Military Train, and in its

place they organized a new corps under the designation of the Army Service Corps, which was to be non-combatant and non-purchase."

In 1870 he disbanded his corps, the treatment of which by Government, when "Viscount Cardwell was Secretary of State, was perhaps the meanest and shabbiest act ever performed by any Government." So Col. Robertson came out, and his more active adventures sold to an end. In a book of this sort (and we wish there were more of them) errors do not count; they are not, at any rate, set down in malice, and they will mislead no one. Many a survivor of Crimean and Mutiny days will read these pages with continued interest, whilst younger people may go far and fare worse in the way of pure amusement.

In *The Earlier Adventures of a Naval Officer* (Digby, Long & Co.) Sir Spenser St. John gives us a further account of the career of his fictitious midshipman Charles Hunter. The volume is a companion to that which we noticed on February 11th, 1905, and differs from it chiefly in being avowedly a work of fiction, based on personal recollections and the adventures of friends and acquaintances, whereas the previous volume was published in the form of an autobiography of "Capt. Charles Hunter, edited by Sir Spenser St. John." The disguise was slight, but, perhaps to the author's amusement, there were many who failed to penetrate it.

The scene of these adventures, as of those already related, lies in Borneo, where the author is absolutely at home; and as we read the spirited accounts of expeditions against pirates, up the rivers and in the interior, of rescue parties, of the bravery and tact of Rajah Brooke, of adventures with man and beast, we have the satisfaction of knowing that these things actually happened—perhaps not at the time nor in the sequence in which they are narrated, but to men whom the author knew, and whose names are written in the naval and colonial history of their country. In some instances at least it would not be difficult to draw the veil of fiction aside, and to give their true names to the frigates Osiris and Sourabaya and their officers; but this task may safely be left to the naval historian into whose hands the book may fall. For the general reader it will suffice to know that the picture of life in the Royal Navy and in Borneo during the early forties is drawn with intimate knowledge and with a due regard for proportion. The book deserves, and we hope will enjoy, the success which its predecessor has, we believe, achieved.

Rear-Admiral Francis J. Higginson, U.S.N., has written for "The Nineteenth Century Series" (W. & R. Chambers) a volume on *The Naval Battles of the Century*, and, within the limits assigned him, has done his work well. Admitting the need of such a book, we have little criticism to offer. The great battles of the Napoleonic era, Copenhagen and Trafalgar, begin the series of fleet actions, which is carried down to the Spanish-American war; the best known of single-ship engagements follow; and in a third section some account is given of operations by ships against land defences. The narrative may be pronounced to be in the main accurate and impartial, almost colourless. Even the bungling in Aix Roads does not stir the author's pulses; and he writes as placidly of the battle of Lake Erie as of the duel between the Shannon and the Chesapeake. For the most part the selection of events leaves little room for complaint. The most notable omission is that of Lord

Exmouth's bombardment of Algiers, while space might have been found for Hoste's frigate action; and an Englishman would perhaps have included the capture of the Gamo among the minor actions.

But, after all, the question is not so much whether the best selection has been made, or whether the narrative is impartial, as, What is the value of such a book for the general reader who seeks information? To such a man we would not recommend this volume. Naval history does not consist of a series of isolated events, and any attempt to perpetuate the bad old theory that it does is deserving of discouragement. By a judicious co-ordination of cause and effect, a tolerably valuable book might have been produced, even within the narrow limits assigned. That this has not been done is, we think, due rather to the lack of elasticity inherent in a series than to any shirking of difficulties on the part of the author.

The Friends of Voltaire, by S. G. Tallentyre (Smith & Elder), is an agreeable work of its kind. It is an anecdotal history arranged in the form of a series of biographical sketches, and written in a vivacious and fluent style. A serious student of the period with which a work of this order deals finds it a matter of difficulty to estimate the peculiar worth of the book. Taste of a sort and talent of a sort are certainly exhibited in its composition: taste to select amusing stories, witty sayings, and lively traits of character; talent to frame out of this material a light and entertaining description of the society of the age. The charm of the description seems to reside in its glistening superficiality. This is the quality that attracts the general reader, and, unfortunately, irritates the serious student. The book elucidates none of the questions in which we are interested. Instead of honestly attempting to estimate the literary, political, and philosophical value of the 'Encyclopædia,' the author misleads her readers by an extravagance of eulogy. She refers to the work as

"that book which Diderot produced, and which, except the Bible and the Koran, may be justly said to have been the most influential book in history; which gave France, and, through France, Europe, that new light and knowledge which brought with them a nobler civilization and a recognition of the universal rights of man."

Again, the good understanding that lasted for a while between the propagators of infidelity and the persons responsible for the government of France is a subject of importance. The French monarchy seems to have been inclined to employ the weapon of anti-clericalism in promotion of an Erastian policy, and to have tried to suppress the 'Encyclopædia' only when that work had produced its effect upon the public mind. This, however, is S. G. Tallentyre's version of the affair:—

"On March 8, 1759, the paternal government of France, joining hands with Geneva, suppressed by royal edict that 'Encyclopædia' of which a very few years earlier it had solemnly approved..... The full-flowing fountain of knowledge was dammed..... His Majesty—his besotted Majesty, King Louis the Fifteenth—finds in the 'Encyclopædia,' forsooth, 'maxims tending to destroy royal authority and to establish independence..... corruption of morals, irreligion, and unbelief.' Sycophant and toadying Paris went with him. Furious and blaspheming, passionate Diderot came out to meet the foe. Dancing with rage, old Voltaire at Délices could only calm himself enough to hold a pen in his shaking fingers and pour out incentives to his brothers in Paris to fight till the death"; and so on. Happily, the book is not written throughout in the style of this passage.

Sir Spencer Walpole's *Studies in Biography* (Fisher Unwin) are, in the main,

reprints. As with the other writings of their distinguished author, they deserve to be read for their balance of judgment and orderly presentment of fact. They are mostly concerned with the period of history which Sir Spencer has made his own, that beginning with the peace of 1815. But the essay on 'Some Decisive Marriages of English History' is an acute investigation of royal alliances and their results; while Gibbon receives his due as a philosopher teaching by example, and is illustrated as a man from the unexpurgated versions of the various autobiographies. We confess that we cannot always follow Sir Spencer in his approval of Lord Sheffield's suppressions. Thus Gibbon, after dwelling on the defects of Madame Pavillard, the wife of the Calvinist minister at Lausanne, went on to say that "to this coarse and scanty fare I am perhaps indebted for the establishment of my constitution." This statement Lord Sheffield took upon himself to omit; yet its interest is considerable, and the lady's reputation can hardly have been his deciding motive, since she was allowed to appear as "ugly, dirty, proud, ill-tempered, and covetous." Gibbon's friend and editor may have committed faults on the right side, but still they were faults.

Most of these biographical studies, as we have remarked, treat of statesmen who have already figured in Sir Spencer Walpole's 'History of England,' only they are regarded from a more personal standpoint. His old readers, therefore, who expect much in the way of novelty, will experience some disappointment. They will get a reproduction of his views on Peel and Cobden, and those are views which have won acceptance from all except the assiduous partisans who use the careers of these statesmen as quarries for political missiles. It seems almost a pity that Sir Spencer did not try, instead, to bring out the individualities of men of inferior calibre—Sir James Graham, for example, or Sir William Molesworth, and, in continental affairs, Drouyn de Lhuys, Buol, or Beust. The study of Disraeli is inevitably based upon defective material, but the appreciation of the novels is uncommonly well done. In proving him guilty of inconsistencies, however, Sir Spencer labours the obvious; and in commenting on the barrenness of his record sufficient allowance is not made for the fact that he did not come to any leadership worth having until he was old and weary.

Sir Spencer considers the fortunes of Napoleon III. chiefly as to foreign affairs. We hear little, therefore, of the "nobbling" of the French provinces as set forth by M. Taxile Delord in a work which has been unduly obscured by the superior brilliance of M. de la Gorce. Another important source of information which does not seem to have been consulted is De Maupas's 'Mémoires sur le Second Empire,' most cynically luminous on the subject of the Coup d'État. Sir Spencer had an easier subject in Bismarck, and he does it ample justice. Until the archives of Berlin yield up their secrets, his sketch of the man of blood and iron is hardly likely to be bettered for sober weighing of motive. In the case of Lord Shaftesbury, Sir Spencer does not sufficiently take into account the formality of much religious phraseology, especially in Evangelical circles. He draws attention to a "horrible entry" in the philanthropist's diary to the effect that Strauss knew the grand secret, and that the thought was awful beyond expression. But this was merely Lord Shaftesbury's way of saying that Strauss was dead, much as a Nonconformist journal urbanely began some obituary

observations with "John Stuart Mill, who has gone to his last account." In an admirable review of Sir Alfred Lyall's 'Life of Lord Dufferin' Sir Spencer adopts the biographer's statement that Dufferin founded the Pythic Society at Christ Church; but a secret debating club also existed in the days of Canning, and it may be that the Pythic was rather revived than created.

The English version of Arvède Barine's *Princesses and Court Ladies*, just published by Messrs. Putnam's Sons, is set up in clear type and bound in cloth boards, with an index and twenty-eight rather poor illustrations. Here it has the advantage of the French issue, but it is unfortunately only one more instance of the poor standard of translation now prevalent, due largely to poor pay. We put before our readers as proof of our assertion the passage relating to the love affair between Louis XIV. and Marie Mancini in the French and the English:

<p>"L'assentiment qu'il éprouva pour elle se ressentit de ce rôle d'Égérie. Au début, avant que Marie se fût instituée son précepteur, l'inclination du roi ressemblait à toutes les inclinations entre très jeunes gens. Elle en a raconté la naissance avec beaucoup de grâce dans un écrit intitulé 'Apologie.'... 'Il arriva de là, qu'ayant fait un voyage à Fontainebleau avec la Cour, que nous suivions partout où elle allait, je connus au retour que le roi ne me haïssait pas.'"</p>	<p>"His love grew out of his admiration for his Algerian (sic). In the beginning, before Marie became his teacher, his feeling for her was like that of most very young men. She tells the story of this dawning attachment most gracefully in a writing entitled 'Apologie.'... 'Once, having gone with the Court to Fontainebleau, for we always followed in the King's train, I heard on my return that the King by no means hated me.'"</p>
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So much for the translation. It is too late in the day to review at length the original work of the brilliant Frenchwoman who writes under the name of Arvède Barine. We can but repeat the praise with which we greeted it when it appeared some sixteen years ago (*Athenæum*, No. 3277). On referring to the French book for the purpose of comparison we were struck once more with its grace and vivacity of style and its vividness of characterization. There is little in the light, but well-drawn studies of famous women which it contains that conflicts with the results of more recent historical research. Arvède Barine's portrait of Marie Mancini, for instance, reminds one of the Sapho of Daudet's novel, while Lucien Perey's later portrait of the same lady reminds one of the Berenice of Racine's tragedy. Both, however, are true portraits—one being painted from the point of view of the school of Jane Austen, the other from that of the school of Charlotte Brontë. Arvède Barine conceals beneath her grace of manner the radiant common sense and the malicious wit of the realist: the adventures of the errant heroines of historical romance amuse and excite her mind, but they never touch and kindle her heart.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

PROF. J. MACCUNN, of the University of Liverpool, publishes through Mr. Edward Arnold *Six Radical Thinkers*, an interesting volume, subject, however, to the drawback that the treatment of political philosophy in chapters devoted to and distinguished by the names of individuals is never thoroughly satisfactory. Bentham is the first subject; but it is impossible for a beginner to derive an accurate impression from a study in which Godwin and his predecessors are scarcely mentioned. On the other hand, the survey of Bentham will hardly teach much to the well-read student. We repeat, however, that the treatment of the lives is pleasant, and that any reader, learned or ignorant, may peruse them with some advantage. Bentham was a tempting

"figure of fun" to politicians and writers of his time, and is here dealt with in somewhat anecdotic fashion. As the view taken of him by many of the English Whigs, except perhaps of the Bowdoin connexion, is named, it may be well to refer to the allusions contained in the writings of Bentham's French friends. There is a good deal of the same kind, better put, in the volume published by Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, as he was, of the letters to Lord Shelburne from his friend and agent the Abbé Morellet. The distinguished Academician explains the means by which, to use our current phrase, Bentham was trying "to run" the French Revolution, and the embarrassments of his translator Dumont at having to explain to the philosopher that the statesmen of the Revolution had other fish to fry, and could not afford the time to listen patiently to the expounding of Bentham's letters by their French recipient. In one passage on Bentham's true philanthropy and real religion Prof. Maccunn shows a wider tolerance for his eccentricities than is common, and justifies the best that is said of Bentham in the essay. The effect of the writings of Godwin and of Bentham on the early Victorian Christian Socialists and on their present representatives in the Church of England is clearer than almost any other influence. Rousseau has died out on the Continent; but Godwin still influences this country.

The second essay, on John Stuart Mill, recalls by its position, as placing Mill second to Bentham, J. S. Mill's own dry treatment of the same subject, Utilitarianism; and reads more easily, though to the student of philosophy it teaches less. Bentham was one through life—a blend, as we all are, but essentially the same man; while J. S. Mill went through extraordinary variations of opinion, and even of philosophy, which are hardly here treated as chronologically distinct, though in fact they were. The author is, of course, as any cultivated student of Mill must be, well aware of the distinctions and differences to be noted in the master's teaching, and quotes his declaration that to the last he continued to learn and unlearn: a thing which Bentham never did. Still, there was something more in Mill's changes: above all things, he learnt by leaving the India Office and coming out into the world, by sitting in Parliament, and continuing, after he had lost his seat, to be consulted and at the same time advised by younger, more ardent, more practical, but less-trained men. Mill had the "knocking about" of politics late in life; but the effect on him was profound, and his change of opinion upon many points significant. It is common to base, as in the volume before us, a view of Mill's opinions on his writings about constitutional government. But those views were abandoned by him in the later part of his career, when his intellect was at its very best, for Mill did not outlive himself. His rigid Malthusianism was continued by Fawcett when completely abandoned by Mill, the teacher of Fawcett's youth. He had at one time acted with Fawcett in fierce economic objection to free schools; but in the last three years of his life he adopted the opposite view with enthusiasm, and fought Fawcett as fiercely with regard to it as did Mr. Chamberlain himself. Minority representation he never abandoned, but many of the most advanced Socialists of the present day are in favour of it on the same grounds; while the "weight" to be given to the educated voter in his earlier schemes was privately abandoned by him, even if no public utterance on the subject can be quoted. We may add to this statement our renewed expression of deep regret that

Mill's letters have never been given to the world and are beginning to be lost, some of the chief collections being now no longer traceable.

It is difficult to see sufficient reason for including in one volume the names of Carlyle and Mazzini with those of Cobden and the two philosophers. We feel still more surprised that the sixth selected name should be that of T. H. Green—here treated as a teacher of our times in the matters quoted. It seems to us that Green rather adopted from others his opinions than imparted them to youth after the manner of Bentham or of Mill. The view of modern politics common among the young men and the best element in the Churches of our time is stated, with the suggestion that in adopting it "we follow Green." Yet it is difficult to trace the influence of Green upon the teachers of the present day, whose opinions come to them by descent from the Christian Socialists of the early Victorian age. The author seems to recognize this fact in later passages, such as: "Green falls . . . into line with those thinkers whose radicalism is religious." No doubt! But then why pick out Green among the six Radical thinkers as the representative of political idealism? The author knows that he should not have done so: "There is nothing in the details that strikes one as distinctive of Green more than of some other radicals of his day."

In his *Literary Forgeries* (Longmans) Mr. J. A. Farrer has given us a curious and entertaining book, distinguished generally for the lucidity of its reasoning. His sixteen chapters range over a wide field. Forgeries of ancient books like 'The Letters of Phalaris' and the 'Consolatio' of Cicero, the various works of C. J. Bertram ('the Pausanias of Britain'), Psalmanazar, the 'Eikon Basilike,' Chatterton's Rowley poems, Lauder's attempts to reduce Milton to a mere imitator of others, and Ireland's wonderful Shakspeareana are among the subjects of chapters. Though satisfied with the author's exposition of the various cases, we should have been glad to see more samples of the forged books, which would give the reader an idea as to their merit and possible chance of being successful at the present day. The makers of ancient classical works show such considerable mastery of their theme as would have enabled them, one imagines, to earn an honest living as critics or expounders of the real thing. Literary knowledge is now much more widely disseminated than formerly, and few of these ingenious gentlemen would have had more than a month's reputation to-day. Forgers in the fine arts, on the contrary, have still a good chance to impose on the credulous.

We notice references to our own columns here and there. We played a part in the exposure of Simonides; and White, the seller of the forged letters of Byron and Shelley, was moved to publish a letter entitled 'Calumnies of the "Athenæum Journal" Exposed,' to which we replied that the whole trouble would have been avoided had White once mentioned to Murray and Moxon (the buyers of the letters) the name of the pseudo-Byron who produced them. Ultimately he repaid the two publishers the sums they gave for his find, but it seems amazing that he was not required to give before purchase was concluded a definite pedigree for his MSS.

Of the Shelley letters Mr. Farrer writes:—

"Indeed it was due to pure chance that any one ever came to doubt them. Moxon happened to send a copy of the published letters to Tennyson; Palgrave happened to be staying with Tennyson;

and in turning over the leaves, Palgrave happened to recognise a passage which he remembered as occurring in a *Quarterly Review* article by his father, Sir Francis Palgrave, so long ago as the year 1840."

Mr. Farrer speaks of the Diamond Necklace and other Marie Antoinette forgeries, but we cannot accept his "obiter dictum" that "it may almost be doubted whether, but for the schemings and forgeries of the notorious Madame la Comtesse de la Motte in the necklace affair, the Revolution itself might not have been averted or delayed."

Marie Antoinette cannot be whitewashed by her admirers among the writers of memoirs.

The Ireland forgeries were supported by a testimonial to their genuineness suggested by Boswell. We see one of the qualities which made Johnson's biographer, his wonderful enthusiasm, in the following reference. Within a few months of his death,

"he examined first the documents themselves, and then their language in the fair copies that had been made from the disguised handwritings. His labours compelled him to call for a tumbler of warm brandy and water. After that he redoubled his praises of the MSS., and declared that he should now die happy, having lived to see such a day. Finally he knelt before the volume and exclaimed: 'I now kiss the invaluable relics of our bard, and thanks to God that I have lived to see them.'"

In the case of the Trau MS. of Petronius, Mr. Farrer comes to no decision, and he does not seem to be familiar with the author in question: otherwise he would, we think, have modified some of his remarks. It is not, for instance, at all certain that this Petronius is the man mentioned by Tacitus as lounging into a reputation. Viewed by the strict classical scholar who knows little of silver Latin, other authors as well as Petronius appear to be full of "impossible Latin." In pursuing such points we are, however, regarding the book before us as a contribution to learning. It clearly is not so intended, since it lacks an index. By way of introduction Mr. Lang adds another chapter to the book, which is vivacious.

In a large volume entitled *Echoes from Kottabos* (Grant Richards) Dr. Tyrrell and Sir Edward Sullivan have collected a number of English pieces, verse and prose, from the college miscellany founded (1868), and for thirteen years edited, by Dr. Tyrrell, but now, after a brief revival (1888-95), extinct. Judged by the brilliant craftsmanship of the classical exercises reprinted from *Kottabos* in 'Dublin Translations into Greek and Latin Verse,' the dexterity displayed here is unequal: with a strict rule of selection the editors might have at once reduced the bulk, and improved the literary quality, of their book. Perhaps they feared lest in sifting their material they should impair its representative character as—to quote their own description of it—"a record of the mind of Trinity College, Dublin, from the disestablishment of the Church to the end of the nineteenth century." Besides, what Aristarch of us all but must look with relenting eye on the ditties doleful or derisory, the sonnets, the "fancies and good-nights," of an old college magazine? As we scan its pages,

desiderio veteres renovamus amores
Atque olim missas flemus amicitias.

Amongst the *Kottabistæ* were many now distinguished in scholarship or letters; of some only their work and their memory remain. The 'Echoes' consist largely of translations, imitations (reverent or burlesque), and parodies of the poets ancient and modern, from Æschylus to Mr. Kipling—with here and there a strain of native,

spontaneous poetry. Of the playful pieces the most polished is the late Prof. Palmer's 'Flight of the Muses,' suggested by an order (long since rescinded) of the Board in October, 1868, removing Greek-verse composition from the list of subjects for the Scholarship Examination. Melpomene, about to fly from the College, unpacks her wrathful heart with words (l. 38 *seqq.*):—

Farewell, ungrateful! 'tis the Board's decree,
Forgetful of my Person and of me!
Forgetful of the glory and the fame,
That I have shed around your once scorn'd name.
With niggard hands the gods their gifts dispense;
They gave you genius, but denied you sense....
For now no more the sacred Board allows
Greek verse to grace the Scholar of the House....
Gone is the test, the easy test, that once
Could separate the scholar from the dunce:
Gone are the days, the golden days, of men
When every person could lambic pen.
Then Alma Mater welcomed with hurrah
Her sober Grecians entering from Armagh:
The mild censure dealt its genial laws,
And boons grew polished under Porson's pause.
Base was the wretch, condemn'd to long disgrace,
Who dared a spondee in the fourth foot place;
Then even the peasant boasted lines to scan,
And learn'd to venerate himself as man.

Excellent, too, of its kind, is William Heazle's free metrical paraphrase of Sallust's 'Catilina,' chaps. i.-vi.: in these rollicking anapaests the crabbed Latin is turned, with an ease and gusto worthy of Father Prout, into the idiom of the Kerry hedge-scholar. Another notable success is C. K. Pooler's 'Echoes from the East—A Barrack-Room Ballad,' with its thumping chorus. Of the serious verses, Dr. Todhunter's 'Paradise Lost' and 'Paradise Found'—a pair of delicate lyrics in the metre and manner of Blake's 'Little Girl Lost' and its sequel—are perhaps the most distinctly poetical in quality. These are too long to quote, and too good to dismember. But for one fleeting waft of song, 'From the German,' by T. W. H. Rolleston, room shall be found:—

Two chambers hath the heart:
There dwelling,
Live Joy and Pain apart.
Is Joy in one awake?
Then only
Doth Pain his slumber take.
Joy, in thine hour, refrain—
Speak softly,
Lest thou awaken Pain.

Amongst the prose extracts the 'Oxford Solar Myth'—a skit by the late Rev. R. Littledale on the name and the mythological theories of Max Müller—is the most considerable. "It has even furnished," say the editors, "in a German rendering, the feuilleton of a pamphlet issued by a *Buchhandlung* of Berlin." A little group of 'Latin Rhymes'—including an admirably adroit version of 'The Bridge of Sighs,' by Dr. Tyrrell adds a pleasant flavour of scholarship to an interesting and well-printed book.

MR. FRANK SIDGWICK'S "Third Series" of *Popular Ballads of the Olden Time*, published by Mr. Bullen, is concerned with ballads of Scottish history and tradition. The selected specimens are well chosen, and the editor displays ample knowledge and taste. Careful glosses are supplied where necessary to words, and the little volume, like its predecessors, forms an excellent introduction to a wide field both instructive and delightful. A course of ballad reading would do good to many modern bards, including the people who write the popular songs of the day. Mr. Sidgwick has given in the Appendix a new ballad, 'The Jolly Juggler,' which was unknown to Child. It is good reading, and recalls in its unrhymed and unfettered refrain some of the best English folk-songs. We should add that Mr. Sidgwick combines with the virtues of the *Fachgelerte* a good style of his own.

M. MAXIME FORMONT is an unequal writer (sometimes very good), and he is generally too "Parisian" for our taste. In his new volume of short stories, which bears the title

of the first, *Les Mauvaises Maîtresses* (Alphonse Lemerre), the author is at his best and worst. Some of the tales are admirably told, and 'La Dame de Recluses' is a perfect sketch, which we commend as warmly as is possible. The story which follows, 'Entre Jeunes Mariées,' is also excellent, as is 'Une Soirée de Paris.'

MR. MURRAY publishes the articles of the Duke of Bedford on *The Preservation of the Militia*, reprinted from *The Morning Post*. The author is a good militia colonel, and understands his subject.

IN his *Études sur Goethe* (Paris, Armand Colin) M. Paul Stapfer has, as he tells us, collected and entirely recast a number of essays dating from twenty to twenty-five years back. They are of somewhat unequal merit, but all possess an interest as presenting a typically French view of Goethe and his work. M. Stapfer does not strike us as in any way a great or original critic, but he writes clearly and sensibly, and cultured readers who have even a slight acquaintance with the writings of Goethe will find his volume attractive, not so much because it will give them new ideas as because it will pleasantly formulate a good many of their own impressions. The first two essays deal with the relations in which Lessing and Schiller respectively stood to Goethe, and illustrate—superficially, but cleverly—the development of German literature during the latter part of the eighteenth century. The rest of the volume discusses Goethe's chief masterpieces—'Werther,' 'Iphigenie,' 'Hermann und Dorothea,' and 'Faust'; the essay on 'Iphigenie' appears to us decidedly the best and most sympathetic of these studies. M. Stapfer has little of that adoration and blank awe shown by so many German critics for their great poet; he is quite capable of discovering shortcomings and blemishes in Goethe's work. Unfortunately his criterion is, we think, too exclusively that of the French classical school, and there are a good many of his strictures that we are unable to endorse. In the case of 'Egmont,' for example, he sides with Schiller, and repeats the latter's censure upon Goethe's departure from historical truth. Now it is no doubt true that an admirable drama on the subject might have been composed according to Schiller's receipt, but we question very much if Goethe was the man to do it, and in any case he had an entirely different aim in view when he wrote his 'Egmont,' which surely is no less admirable in its own way. So, too, there is a good deal of the essay on 'Faust' with which we cannot agree. However, it is instructive to be shown a point of view opposed to one's own, and M. Stapfer is never violent or unreasonable in his condemnations.

THE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY OF NEW YORK AND THE SHAKESPEARE PRESS.

Bodleian Library, Oxford.

AFTER the correspondence in *The Athenæum* of November 24th I waited two months to give the Shakespeare Press of Westfield, N.J., full time to repay the Bodleian the subscription sent in April, 1891, to that press's predecessor (L. L. Lawrence) for the 'Four-text Hamlet': I had already posted the Shakespeare Press a facsimile copy of L. L. Lawrence's receipt. At last, on January 23rd, I wrote to New York, to the executive of the Society in whose name the subscriptions had been invited. I briefly stated the essential facts, and applied for the return of the Bodleian subscription without further delay.

My letter now comes back to me *without money and without answer*, but with the following notes in the margin: (1) "Ref to ARF 1st VP WOB' Rec Se[c]." (2) "Dear A. M. This man appears to have a grievance. Frey." (3) "According to *The Athenæum* the man lies"—signed with almost illegible letters, which may or may not be I.A.M.

These initials suggest "William O. Bates, Esq., Recording Secretary." "Albert R. Frey, F.R.N.S., First Vice-President," and [James] "Appleton Morgan, LL.D., President," of "The Shakespeare Society of New York," according to a list in the October, 1906, number of *New Shakespeareana*, which says that "all communications other than subscriptions to *New Shakespeareana* should be addressed to the Recording Secretary," whose office is at "673, Greene Avenue, Borough of Brooklyn, New York City." But my letter is posted back to me, not from New York City, but (on February 4th) from Westfield, N.J., the habitat of the Shakespeare Press.

After my letter in *The Athenæum* of October 20th the head of one of the most famous libraries in the States wrote to thank me for it; and the head of another library wrote: "I take the liberty of assuring you that your letter will be welcomed by a large number of American librarians."

E. W. B. NICHOLSON, Bodley's Librarian.

STRATFORD'S "BOOKLESS NEIGHBOURHOOD."

IN his letter on this subject Mr. Sidney Lee refers to "the circumstance that Shakespeare was on familiar terms with Florio and with his dictionary."

Has Mr. Lee any authority for this statement? In the nineteenth volume of the 'Dictionary of National Biography' there is an article on Florio by "S. L. Lee," in which it is stated that

"Florio, as the protégé of Lords Southampton and Pembroke, doubtless met Shakespeare, but this is pure conjecture";

and again:—

"Farmer and Warburton have argued that Shakespeare ridiculed Florio in *Holofernes* in 'Love's Labour's Lost.' They chiefly rely on the bombastic preface to the 'World of Words.' But there is really nothing there to justify the suggestion."

We know that Florio was Southampton's Italian tutor, and that it was to him that Florio dedicated his 'World of Words.' But it is yet to be proved that Shakespeare was acquainted with either Florio or the 'World of Words.' GEORGE STRONACH.

THE BOOKSELLERS' PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

ON Thursday next, as we have already announced, the annual meeting of the Booksellers' Provident Institution will be held. It will be a special anniversary, for the Institution will then celebrate its seventieth birthday. There will be a concert and a soirée, and a large gathering is expected. We hope it will lead to a considerable increase of members, for, as the Bishop of London said at the last annual meeting, "it is a rattling good thing. I have looked into the figures right through—figures after figures—and if you are going to get for 3½d. a week all that is contained in this little book, you are a big fool not to join as quickly as you can."

We have been favoured with a copy of the Report to be read on Thursday, and are glad to see that the receipts have exceeded

the expenditure by 749l. 5s. 10d. This shows an increase of 50l. on the previous year. The receipts included two legacies: Henry Sotherton's of 100l., and Thomas Reader's of 50l. The amount paid to beneficiaries was 1,275l., 50l. more than in the year before. The increase in membership has been well maintained, 34 new members having been elected—10 more than in 1905. The losses by death include two directors—Richard Amer and Joseph Archer—and Arthur Hall, who for many years ably served as auditor. The Committee announce that, owing to the increase in the work, Mr. D. G. Thomson has been appointed assistant to Mr. Larnier, who has rendered such long and willing service as secretary. This arrangement will add only 50l. to the expenses, which are always managed in an economical way.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

- Briggs (C. A. and E. G.), *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Book of Psalms*, Vol. II., 10/6. A volume of the International Critical Commentary.
- Eck (H. V. S.), *Sin*, 5s. A volume of the Oxford Library of Practical Theology, the object of which is to supply some carefully considered teaching on matters of religion to that large body of devout laymen who desire instruction, but are not attracted by the learned treatises which appeal to the theologian.
- Hankey (W. B.), *The Church and the Saints*, 3/6 net. Twenty sermons, edited by M. K. C. Strong.
- Kelman (J.), *The Faith of Robert Louis Stevenson*, New Edition, 3/6 net. For former review see *Athen.*, Vol. II., 1903, p. 86.
- Official Year-Book of the Church of England, 1907, 3/.
- Plain Sermons on Sunday Observance, 2/6 net. By the Rev. S. Baring-Gould, the Dean of Carlisle, the Rev. M. H. James, Canon (J. E. Jeff), the Bishop of Kensington, the Rev. A. B. Orr, and the Rev. J. Wakeford.
- Taylor (F. J.), *The Apostle of Patience and Practice*, 2/6. A simple exposition of the Epistle of St. James, in fourteen short addresses delivered at St. Matthew's, Redhill.
- Vivian (P.), *The Churches and Modern Thought*, Second Edition, 6/ net.

Law.

- Ilbert (Sir C.), *The Government of India*, Second Edition, 10/6 net. For review of the first edition see *Athen.*, May 23, 1898, p. 688. Sir Courtney Ilbert's book, as we then pointed out, is worthy of strong commendation.
- Nixon (A.) and Holland (R. W.), *Commercial Law*, 5s. Although meant to be of service to business men, this work is written mainly for the student preparing for the various professional and commercial examinations.
- Piggott (F.), *Nationality, including Naturalization*, 2 parts, 60 net.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

- Burne-Jones (Sir Edward), *Second Series*, 3/6 net. Reproductions of his works, with an introductory essay.
- Burrows (G. T.), *Some Old English Inns*, 2/6 net.
- Dillon (E.), *Glass*, 25 net. The subject-matter of this book is the history of glass from the point of view of art, comprising vessels of glass, "hollow ware," and small objects such as beads; the primitive glass of the Egyptians; the multifold applications of the material in Roman times; the enamelled glass of the Saracens; the glass of Venice; the inland or potash glass of Germany; and our English glass of lead—the flint-glass of the eighteenth century.
- Macquoid (P.), *A History of English Furniture*, Vol. III., Part 12, 7/6 net.
- Rhys (Prof. J.), *The Celtic Inscriptions of France and Italy*, 7/6 net. Reprinted from the *Proceedings of the British Academy*, Vol. II.
- Roberts (W. J.), *The Pocket Cathedral Guide*, 2/6 net. The author in this little volume makes no claim to have dealt with his subject in an exhaustive manner. His aim has been to collect and condense in a chatty and readable form just those items of interest which will appeal to the ordinary run of cathedral visitors.

Poetry and Drama.

- Butler (A. G.), *Charles I.*, 2/6 net. A tragedy in five acts, Revised Edition.
- Eaton (A. W.), *The Lotus of the Nile*, and other Poems, 1 dol. net.
- Keats (J.), *Complete Poetical Works*, 3/6. The Oxford Edition, edited by H. Buxton Forman. It supplies in a handy form an authoritative text of the whole body of his work in verse, an edition being also available on India paper.
- MacAlister (D.), *Echoes*, 2/6 net. Translations of well-known verses.
- Poet's Birthday Book, edited by C. Sinclair, 5/ net. Brief biographies with poetic examples of the popular poets of the period.
- Shakespeare, *Pericles*, 2/6 net. A volume of the Arden Shakespeare.
- Story of Wagner's "Lohengrin," 3/6 net. Retold by F. C. Tinney, with coloured plates by him.
- Street (L.), *Stray Sonnets*, 1/ net. A volume in the Vigo Cabinet Series.
- Tynan (K.), *The Rhymed Life of St. Patrick*, 1/ net. Pictures by L. D. Symington.

Music and Drama.

- Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians, Vol. III., edited by J. A. Fuller Maitland, 21/ net.

Philosophy.

- Blewett (G. J.), *The Study of Nature and the Vision of God*, with other Essays in Philosophy.
- Boutroux (M. E.), *Religion according to Herbert Spencer*, 6d. A lecture delivered at the Institut Général Psychologique, Paris, June 6, 1905. Translated by A. S. Morley.
- Lee (G. S.), *The Voice of the Machines*, 1 dol. 25. Part I. The Men behind the Machines. Part II. The Language of the Machines. Part III. The Machines as Poets. Part IV. The Ideas behind the Machines.
- Marcus (S. P.), *Monism?* 1/ net. Thoughts suggested by Prof. Haeckel's book "The Riddle of the Universe." Translated by R. W. Felkin.
- Williams (J.), *Science, Life and the Creator's Purpose in Human Life*, 3/6 net.

Political Economy.

- Lethbridge (Sir R.), *India and Imperial Preference*, with Statistical Tables, 2/6 net. The aim of these essays, founded mainly on articles contributed to *The Englishman of Calcutta*, is to advocate the "My own country's products for me."
- MacCunn (J.), *Ethics of Citizenship*, Fourth Edition, 2/6 net. For former review see *Athen.*, May 19, 1894, p. 644.

History and Biography.

- Balfour (J. S.), *My Prison Life*, 6/.
- Boswell (J.), *The Life of Samuel Johnson*, Part I., 1/ net. To appear in twelve monthly parts, edited by R. Lupton, with 400 illustrations and 12 photogravures.
- Burney (F.), *Early Diary*, 1768-78, 2 vols., 7/6. Substantially a reprint of Mrs. Baine Ellis's edition of Fanny Burney's "Early Diary," first published in 1889.
- Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series, 1675-6, edited by F. H. B. Daniell.
- Colquhoun (A. R. and E.), *The Whirlpool of Europe*, 15/ net. This book is designed to meet the wants of the general reader, who, without time or inclination for historical and political research, is yet anxious to understand the events that are taking place in Central and Southern Europe.
- Cornford (P. M.), *Thecidides Mythistoricus*, 10/6 net.
- Craig (W. H.), *Life of Lord Chesterfield*, 12/6 net.
- Dobson (A.), *Eighteenth-Century Vignettes*, Third Series, Fine-Paper Edition, 2/ net.
- Ford (D.), *Admiral Vernon and the Navy*, 10/6 net.
- Huchon (R.), *George Crabbe and his Times*, 1754-1832, 15/ net. Translated by F. Clarke. A critical and biographical study.
- Joyce (P. W.), *The Story of Ancient Irish Civilisation*, 1/6 net. This little book has been written with the object of spreading a knowledge of the civilization and general social condition of Ireland from the fifth or sixth century to the twelfth.
- Ragg (L.), *Dante and his Italy*, 12/6 net. The book is not merely, or chiefly, a biography of the "Divino Poeta"; it is rather an attempt to depict afresh the life of Dante's time, and to look at the mediæval world, especially the Italian world of the *Trecento*, through Dante's eyes.
- Souttar (R.), *A Short History of Mediæval Peoples*, 12/.
- From the dawn of the Christian era to the fall of Constantinople.
- Sharpe (R. R.), *Memorials of Newgate Gaol and the Sessions House, Old Bailey*. (Privately printed.)
- Victoria Histories: Suffolk, Vol. II.; York, Vol. I., both edited by W. Page, 31/8 each.
- Wright (C. L.), *The Life of Walter Pater*, 2 vols., 24/ net. With 78 plates.

Geography and Travel.

- Baring-Gould (S.), *A Book of the Pyrenees*, 6/.
- Bulpett (G. W. L.), *A Picnic Party in Wildest Africa*, 12/6 net. A record of the expedition organized in 1904 by Mr. McMillan, the American traveller, for the purpose of exploring the country lying between the river Akobo and Lake Rudolph.
- Butler (Sir W.), *From Naboth's Vineyard*, 5/ net. These letters from South Africa, chiefly written in the first half of 1906, are the outcome of a visit made at the invitation of Mr. Franklin Thomason, M.P., of *The Tribune*.
- Picturesque New South Wales. An illustrated guide for settler and tourist.
- Pleydell (K. M.), *Sketches of Life in Morocco*, 6/.
- Vaughan (H. M.), *The Naples Riviera*, 6/.
- With 25 illustrations in colour by M. Greiffenhagen.

Sports and Pastimes.

- Dale (T. F.), *The Stable Handbook*, 3/ net.

Education.

- Young (J. W. A.), *The Teaching of Mathematics in the Elementary and the Secondary School*, 6/ net. A volume of the American Teachers' Series.

Philology.

- Chapman (Major F. R. H.), *English-Hindustani Pocket Vocabulary*, Second Edition, 2/ net.
- Dictionary of Commercial Correspondence, in English, French, German, Spanish, and Italian, 7/6 net. This work does not attempt to displace, but rather to supplement, other dictionaries, and it premises some knowledge of the grammar and construction of the different languages on the part of the person who uses it.
- O'Connor (J. C.) and Hugon (P. D.), *Praktikaj Komercn* Leteroj, in Esperanto, with Key, Part I, 1/.

School-Books.

- Anthology of English Verse, 2/. With introduction and glossary by A. J. Wyatt and S. E. Coggin. The object of the editors has been to make the book thoroughly representative of all that is best in English verse (exclusive of drama), and to trace the development of our poetry down to the present time.
- Mackinder (H. J.), *Our Own Islands*, 2/6. An elementary study in geography, with 132 illustrations, including 30 coloured plates.
- Normal Preparation and Test Maps, 1d. each. Well adapted for gauging a pupil's knowledge of a country.

Science.

- Affalo (F. G.), *A Walk through the Zoological Gardens*, 3/6.
- Asiatic Society of Bengal: *Memoirs*, Vol. I., No. 10, 2/10; No. 11, 1/2; Nos. 12-16, 1/6 each; No. 17, 1/2; No. 18, 1/6; No. 19, 2/; Supplement, 1/6—*Journal and Proceedings*, Vol. II., Nos. 1-9.
- British Trees, drawn and described by V. Cole, Text revised by D. Kempe, 2 vols., 34/ net.
- Bundy (E. R.), *Textbook of Anatomy for Nurses*, 7/6 net.
- Cheattle (A. H.), *Some Points in the Surgical Anatomy of the Temporal Bone*, 5/ net.
- Finn (F.), *Birds of the Country-side*, 5/ net. This book is primarily intended to serve as a means of identification of the birds most conspicuous in life or literature, free or in captivity in this country.
- Harvey Lectures, 1905-6, by Various Authors, 9/ net.
- Henslow (Prof. G.), *Introduction to Plant Ecology*, 2/6. For the use of teachers and students reading for the Natural Science Tripos at Cambridge.
- Hill (J. B.) and MacAlister (D. A.), *The Geology of Falmouth and Truro and of the Mining Districts of Camborne and Redruth*, 7/6.
- Hill-Tout (C.), *British North America*, 1. *The Far West the Home of the Salish and Déné*, 6/ net. A volume of Native Races of the British Empire.
- Lapponi (Dr. J.), *Hypnotism and Spiritism*, 5/ net. Translated by Mrs. P. Gibbs.
- McIntosh (J. G.), *Industrial Alcohol*, 7/6 net. The production and use of alcohol for industrial purposes, for use as an illuminant, and as a source of motive power.
- Moederbeck (H. W. L.), *Pocket-Book of Aeronomics*, 10/6 net. Authorized English Edition, translated by W. M. Varley.
- Moss (C. E.), *Geographical Distribution of Vegetation in Somerset: Bath and Bridgwater District*.
- Nicholls (A. E.), *Nicholls's Seamanship and Viva Voce Guide*, 6/ net. Revised and brought up to date by F. W. Maxwell.

Juvenile Books.

- Learnmount (J.), *Thirty Chats with Young Folk*, 2/6.
- Whiting (H. S.), *Just Percy; a Tale of Dickton School*, 3/6.

General Literature.

- Albanesi (E. M.), *Simple Simon*, 6d.
- Barrett (J.), *The Obliging Husband*, 2/6 net. How Robin Fairfellow and his Peggy passed through thickly strewn temptations, how the poor little haberdasher resisted the anorous attacks of skittish Mrs. Barbary, how his lively wife escaped the toils laid in her path by King Charles, and how both rose to the rank of heroes, is shown in Mr. Barrett's comedy-romance.
- Blackmore (R. D.), *Lorna Doone*, New Edition, 2/6. With photogravure portrait of the author.
- Bourne (H. R. Fox), *Egypt under British Control*, Second Edition, 1/; *Lord Cromer's Supremacy*, 6d.
- Bradshaw's Railway Manual, Shareholders' Guide, and Official Directory, 1907, 12/. Fifty-fifth edition, edited by H. H. Bassett. Whilst following the main system adopted in the preceding fifty-eight volumes, the publishers have directed their attention in the new edition to concentrating the information and making more easy the work of reference.
- Butler (E. P.), *Mr. Perkins of Portland*, 3/6.
- Children of the Motherland, 4/ net.
- Croft (M.), *Disciples*, 6/. The unsympathetic *précieuse* who deems herself immune from the restrictions of a convention "made for fools" passes through much tribulation before she learns to accept with happy grace the limitations of humanity. Much travail of soul also awaits her disciples—sister and friend. The Irish environment is well realized, and relief from the introspective egotism of the heroine presumptive is provided in skilfully drawn minor characters.
- Davis (G. A.), *When Half-Gods Go*, 6/.
- Dewett (M.), *The Seven Watchmen*, 6/.
- Dickens (C.), *A Tale of Two Cities*, Popular Edition, 1/ net.
- Douglas (F.), *A Lost Summer*, 6/. The story is of an Englishman so injured in a railway accident that loss of memory ensues. He recovers to find himself in possession of his faculties, except that he is divorced entirely from his past life and associations. For several months this continues, and then he suddenly regains his original memory, and loses that of the interval. The author tells of the complications which result.
- Drake (E. T.), *Victorian Year-Book*, 1905. Twenty-sixth issue.
- Early English Prose Romances, edited by W. J. Thoms, New Edition, 6/ net. For former notice see *Athen.*, Oct. 15, 1904, p. 516.
- Fletcher (J. S.), *Daniel Quayne*, 6/. Three figures dominate this absorbing "morality": the woman, capable, attractive, mistress of herself in all except the one un-eradicable weakness of her nature; the man, clever and wise as she, but not strong enough to resist the late and cunningly aroused passion which consumes him; and the "other man," simple, guileless, and untutored, hurried by the expression of a primitive instinct to the foot of the gallows.
- Francis (M. E.), *Stepping Westward*, 6/. A collection of short stories dealing with rustic life. The scene in some instances is laid in Dorset, and in others in a district of South-West Lancashire no less familiar to the author.
- Gallon (T.), *The Cruise of the Make-Believes*, 6/.
- Galsworthy (J.), *The Country House*, 6/.
- Gunter (A. C.), *Twist Sword and Glove*, 6/. A story of France when Louis XIV. was king.
- Haggard (H. R.), *The Witch's Head*, 6d.
- Hardy (T.), *Desperate Remedies*, Pocket Edition, 2/6 net.
- Hocking (J.), *A Strong Man's Vow*, 3/6.
- Irving (W.), *Rural Life in England*, 3/6 net. With coloured plates.
- Jones (M. W.), *Time and Tide*, 6/.
- Lewis (M. G.), *The Monk*, 6/ net. Edited by E. A. Baker in the Library of Early Novelists.
- Millar (T. J.), *Check Numbers and other Aids to balancing Books of Account*, 5/ net.
- Miniature Reference Library: Anson's (W. S. W.) *Shakespearean Quotations*; Ross's (F. E.) *A Pocket Dictionary of Technical and Scientific Terms*; What's the Law? by A. Barrister-at-Law; Curli's (J. C. R.) and Curli's (M. A.) *Who Did That? Swan's (H. A.) Who's Who in Fiction? Latham's (E.) and Curli's (M. A.) Who Wrote That? Foreign Authors*, 1/ net each.

Modern Cyclopedia, Vol. VI., edited by C. Annandale. For notice of former volumes see *Athen.* No. 4139, p. 223.
 Morley (G.), *A Bunch of Blue Ribbons*, 6/
 Northamptonshire Notes and Queries, Vol. I., No. 8.

Oldmeadow (E.), Susan, 6/
 Paine (E. D.), *The Story of Martin Coe*, 6/. A sweet and wholesome romance of New England. The hero, a gunner's mate in the U.S. navy, is lured by promise of hard fighting and big rewards, to enter the service of Salgadan revolutionaries, an act of desertion which forms an obstacle in his subsequent unconventional wooing of the "Lone Pupil" of a Select School of Young Ladies kept by two delightful old ladies of exquisite refinement.

Peel (Mrs. C. S.), *Fish and How to Cook It*; Dishes made without Meat, 1/ net each. As these books are intended primarily for households where both labour and money must be economized, the recipes are neither over-expensive nor over-elaborate.

Perrin (A.), *A Free Solitude*, 2/6 net. The story deals with the life of an Englishman who has unexpectedly inherited some property in a beautiful valley at the foot of the Himalayas, and comes so much under the spell of his surroundings that he makes the place his home. The crux of the story is whether he can forego this life, which has enthralled him, for the sake of a woman.

Pryce (H.), *Towing-path Bess*, and other Stories.

Rickert (E.), *The Golden Hawk*, 6/

Roy (O.), *The Husband Hunter*, 6/. The idea of a husband, after his reported death, entering his wife's service in order to woo her, is certainly "a twice-told tale." When we say that the key to the present novel is placed in the reader's hands within the first fifty pages, and that the denouement is enjoyed after three hundred pages, it may be assumed that much skill is shown in the working out. We think, however, that a reduction in quantity might have added to quality.

Scudler (V. D.), *The Disciple of a Saint*, 4/6 net. Being the imaginary biography of Raniero di Landoccio dei Pagliarini.

Shipping World Year-Book, 1907, 6/

Smedley (C.), *Conflict*, 6/. The story of a girl and a champion of the cause of woman's independence, who becomes "a patriotic citizeness."

Smith (H. M.), *In Playtime*, 3/6 net. Eight of these papers have appeared in *The Treasury* and one in *The Church Times*.

Thackeray (F. St. J.), *Sunday at Marby Castle*, 6d.

Wardle (J.), *The Artistic Temperament*, 6/. A homely tradesman whose only idea is to follow the path of duty; a beautiful, small-minded, erring wife, and an invertebrate artist: out of these has been evolved a very readable and sympathetic tale.

Wemyss (G.), *The Younger Woman*, 6/. Presents a picture of a hypocrite and of his two establishments. Philanthropic work in the East End, in which both are interested, bring wife and "younger woman" together with tragic result.

Whishaw (F.), *The Madness of Gloria*, 6/

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Bonet-Maury (G.), *France: Christianisme et Civilisation*, 3fr. 50.

Dunkmann (K.), *Geschichte des Christentums als Religion der Versöhnung u. Erlösung: Vol. I. Part I. Prolegomena*, 3m. 30.

Weiss (B.), *Die Quellen des Lukasevangeliums*, 6m.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Bourdellès (R. Le), *Michel-Ange*, 3fr. 50.

Comité de Conservation des Monuments de l'Art arabe, Année, 1905.

Engelmann (W.), *Nachträge und Berichtigungen zu Daniel Chodowiecki's sämtliche Kupferstiche*, edited by R. Hirsch, 5m.

Rodocanachi (E.), *La Femme italienne à l'Époque de la Renaissance*, 30fr.

History and Biography.

Bastide (C.), *John Locke: ses Théories politiques et leur Influence en Angleterre*, 7fr. 50.

Masson (F.), *Napoleon et sa Famille*, Vols. VIII. and IX., 15fr.

Robiquet (P.), *Histoire et Droit*, 2 vols., 7fr.

Geography and Travel.

Furchheim (F.), *Die Blaue Grotte auf Capri*.

Philology.

Weissel (Josephine), *James Thomson der Jüngere, sein Leben und seine Werke*, 4m.

Wretschko (A. von), *Der Traktat des Laurentius de Somercote, Kanonikus von Chichester, über die Vornahme von Bischofswahlen*, 2m. 40.

General Literature.

Amiot (G.), *Femme de Peintre*, 3fr. 50.

Hexenlieb (F.), *Annus Mirabilis: Journal des Événements mémorables de l'An de Disgrâce 1913*, 1fr.

Skrimir, Part 4, 1906, 1kr.

*. All Books received at the Office up to Wednesday Morning will be included in this List unless previously noted. Publishers are requested to state prices when sending Books.

Braithwaite. The book is an account of an extensive tour through the island, and the writer of the preface, who is chief of the civil administration in Formosa, describes it as a clear and authoritative history.

Mr. FREDERIC VILLIERS is publishing next week a volume of reminiscences entitled 'Peaceful Personalities and Warriors Bold.' During his many expeditions he has met a wonderful variety of monarchs, soldiers, statesmen, and artists, and they have all found a place in his volume. The book will be published by Messrs. Harper with a large number of illustrations.

A NEW volume by Mr. Christopher Hare will be published by the same firm next Friday. It is entitled 'The High and Puissant Princess Marguerite of Austria.' It is the story of the daughter of Maximilian, and follows her career in France and Spain. It shows her as the wife of Philibert of Savoy, and finally as regent for her nephew, the future Emperor Charles V. The book will contain many illustrations.

Mr. JOHN DAVIDSON has finished 'The Triumph of Mammon,' the first play of a trilogy which he is writing under the general title of 'God and Mammon.' This book will be published by E. Grant Richards on April 11th, which happens to be Mr. Davidson's fiftieth birthday. A prose note by way of epilogue is appended to the play. In the epilogue Mr. Davidson considers the circumstances of contemporary drama, and announces his belief that it is impossible to write great plays for the English stage at present, because the theatre here still lives, moves, and has its being in the Christian economy, faith, and morality. Shakespeare has shown man comporting himself in Christendom once for all, and therefore Shakespeare holds the stage in Christendom; and therefore, Mr. Davidson insists, "if it were only that there might be a new drama, it would be necessary to have a new cosmogony."

Mr. DAVIDSON also combats the accusations which have been brought against him of writing metaphysical poetry and of being a worshipper of matter. Further, the epilogue contains a history of English poetry in a nutshell, which Mr. Davidson concludes with the declaration that he himself is the first writer to bring an actual change into English poetry: "Hitherto," he says, "English poetry subsists in two worlds, a material world and a spiritual world, the latter allowing and disallowing the former."

THE rumour that the Reading-Room of the British Museum is to be closed for six months is causing a good deal of dissatisfaction, and it is freely alleged that other causes besides cleaning are responsible for the proposal. So far, however, we have heard of no reason weighty enough to justify the dislocation of the work of serious students for half a year.

Mr. CHARLES HIGHAM, the well-known bookseller, writes concerning 'Thackeray and John Barrow':—

"That John Barrow, his father, mother, and sister, were, about the time of the publication of 'King Glumpus,' constant visitors at the London house of Miss Emily Parker's parents appears from Lady Parker's Visiting Book for [July 17.] 1835, to November 5, 1839, which, in MS., now lies before me. Within that period are recorded 20 calls by Lady Barrow, 5 by Sir John Barrow, 18 by Miss Barrow, and 12 by Mr. John Barrow."

THE REV. HUGH BENSON's new book, 'The Papers of a Pariah,' which will be published next Friday by Messrs. Smith & Elder in this country and by Messrs. Longman in the United States, is described as "of religious interest," and was written at a time when the author viewed the Roman Church favourably, though he did not belong to it.

THE EATON PRESS, of 190, Ebury Street, will publish in about twenty-five fortnightly parts 'Surnames of the United Kingdom: a Concise Etymological Dictionary,' by the author of 'The Place-Names of the Liverpool District,' Mr. Henry Harrison. Nearly 20,000 British and Irish surnames are included, and the author has had help from Prof. Kuno Meyer.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA has appointed Mr. T. Fisher Unwin agent for the sale of the publications of the Indian Governments. These include a number of books on Indian history and archaeology, architecture and art, botany and forestry; grammars of the various Indian languages; and the series of maps of the Indian Ordnance Survey.

A NEW edition of Mr. Bodley's 'France' is in the press, making the seventh English edition of the work, including two published in America. There are no changes of importance in it, except a new preface, as Mr. Bodley hopes to produce early next year the first volume of the "Second Series" of 'France,' which has been delayed by his long illness.

Mr. HARRISON BARKER, who is now H.M. Vice-Consul at Le Tréport and Eu, is about to republish in a popular form 'Wayfaring in France' and his other volumes on French provincial life, which were highly appreciated by critics when they first appeared.

A STONE with the inscription "E.F.G., 1868-1879," has been placed by FitzGerald's old friend and bookseller, Mr. John Loder, on the house in the Market Place, Woodbridge, where FitzGerald lived and wrote during those years.

NEXT Friday another four novels at the new price of half-a-crown net are to be issued by Messrs. Sisley. They will include works by L. T. Meade and Roy Horniman. The publishers report very large sales for their new enterprise.

Literary Gossip.

MESSRS. LONGMAN have nearly ready 'Japanese Rule in Formosa,' by Yosaburo Takekoshi, with a preface by Baron Shimpei Goto, translated by Mr. George

VOLS. III. AND IV. of 'The Cults of the Greek States,' by Dr. Farnell, will be published by the Oxford University Press next week. Chapters are devoted to Ge, Demeter and Kore-Persephone, Hades-Plouton, Poseidon, Apollo, &c., and the volumes are illustrated by upwards of eighty plates. The earlier volumes were published in 1896, and the author has been able to profit in the long interval by many works of continental and English scholars relating to the subject, and to form more mature opinions on many important points. The new volumes contain more ethnologic discussion than their predecessors.

MR. H. B. McCALL, the author of the 'History of Midcalder,' is about to publish through Mr. Elliot Stock 'The Early History of Bedale.' It will contain a record of the chief events which have affected the town, and the fortunes of the political and military leaders of the district, giving special attention to the period from the thirteenth century to the Rebellion of 1569. The ecclesiastical part of the book deals with the many interesting churches of the district. In the historical portions the author includes much new information, and the whole will be illustrated by many views, plans, pedigrees, etchings, &c.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN has conferred the honorary degree of D.D. on Dr. A. S. Peake, Professor of Biblical Criticism and Exegesis in the University of Manchester. The recipient is one of the first laymen on whom this distinction has been conferred.

MR. ELKIN MATHEWS'S spring announcements include 'The Life of Sir Tobie Matthew, Knight, Bacon's Alter Ego,' by his kinsman Mr. Arnold Harris Mathew and Miss A. Calthrop, with numerous portraits; 'The Days of a Year: Notes by a Naturalist'; 'Orpheus,' by Mr. Arthur Dillon; 'The Wayfarer's Garland,' by Mr. Fred Beresford; 'Stray Sonnets,' by Miss Lilian Street ('Vigo Cabinet Series'); and 'Poems,' by Mr. George C. Cope.

NEXT Monday will be the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Dr. Doran, editor of *Notes and Queries* 1872-8, and a well-known writer in this journal. His geniality and accomplishments were of great service to both papers. He was, said W. J. Thoms, in 1878, "under twenty when his 'prentice hand directed *The Literary Chronicle*; and, for the last quarter of a century, hardly a publishing season has returned without producing some valued work from his pen."

THE syllabus of the eleventh annual Oireachtas, which is to be held in Dublin next August, has just been issued. Prizes for prose essays and stories, for the best collections of folk-lore, proverbs, and Irish songs and airs, and for skill in oratory, dialogue, and story-telling, are amongst those offered; and all the competitions will be conducted in the Irish language.

THE BROTHERS MARGUERITTE have decided to dissolve their literary partnership, though they remain on the best of terms. Each will in future be responsible for his own works. Consequently the novel announced in our last number will be signed by Victor only, and the continuation of the 'Pas sur le Sable,' called 'Les Jours s'Allongent,' will be in the name of Paul; but the piece in three acts, 'Claire Fresneau,' to be given in October by the Comédie Française, will be signed by both.

M. PAUL GUIRAUD, whose death in his fifty-seventh year was announced from Paris last week, was Professor of Ancient History at the Sorbonne. He was a follower of Fustel de Coulanges (of whom he published a biography in 1896), and had a profound knowledge of the constitutions of ancient Greece and Rome. He was the author of several books, notably 'De la Propriété foncière en Grèce jusqu'à la Conquête romaine,' 'Travail en Grèce,' 'Études économiques sur l'Antiquité,' &c. He succeeded Alfred Rambaud at the Institute in February of last year.

At the end of this month the Société du Mercure de France will publish 'Paul Verlaine: sa Vie, son Œuvre,' by Edmond Lepelletier, who knew Verlaine intimately from his earliest years. The poet entrusted him with the task of writing his biography, and left him his papers. M. Lepelletier tells the truth as to Verlaine's adventures and misfortunes, which have been distorted by various writers. Unpublished sketches written in London, and a correspondence dealing with Verlaine's religious opinions, are given.

THE French papers announce the death of "le poète parnassien," André Lemoyne, at Saint Jean d'Angély, where he was born in 1822. He was called to the French bar, but abandoned law for typography, entering the house of Firmin-Didot as a printer. His first book of poems, 'Les Roses d'Antan,' secured the praises of Sainte-Beuve.

MR. R. P. KARKARIA, whose erudition has from time to time adorned our columns, is publishing this month with Messrs. Thacker and the Caxton Press of Bombay a volume entitled 'Lord Curzon's Farewell to India.' It is to contain, besides the farewell speeches at Bombay, Simla, and elsewhere, some of the articles contributed by Mr. Karkaria to the Anglo-Indian press, notably *The Calcutta Review*, giving an appreciation of Lord Curzon's work for India, and touching on some historical parallels to his regrettable dispute with Lord Kitchener. The Archbishop of Armagh's ode welcoming Lord Curzon home, which appeared in *The Times*, is also reprinted.

WE note the issue of the following Government Publications: Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, 1675-6 (15s.); Royal Warrant amending the Statutes of the Royal University of Ireland (½d.); and Statistical Abstract for the British Empire in each Year from 1891 to 1905 (1s.).

SCIENCE

The Bird: its Form and Function. By C. William Beebe. (Constable & Co.)

THIS book is of American origin, and has been compiled, evidently as a labour of love, by the Curator of Ornithology of the New York Zoological Park. It may not be amiss to remark at once that in the matter of literary style and spelling the most prejudiced Britisher will find little here to which he can take exception. The intention has been, as we read in the preface, to present an untechnical study of the bird in the abstract—to consider briefly the various phases of its physical, apart from its mental, life. The volume, with its 500 pages of thick glossy paper, is a surprising weight in the hand; but, when the nature of the subject is considered, it is anything but heavy reading. Each chapter is the work of the born lecturer, holding the attention of his audience from beginning to end, suggesting here, illustrating there, and always stimulating the appetite for further investigation.

In the first chapter our imaginations are carried back over millions of years, while the story of bird ancestors is pieced together from the fossils of the museums. The great Hesperornis, to go back only to the Cretaceous period, is shown to have possessed a brain comparatively smaller than that of any existing bird, and thus to have succumbed in the struggle for existence in primeval times. Its place was taken by birds of much smaller size, but of greater intelligence, represented to this day by loons and grebes. "When in the depth of the winter," writes Mr. Beebe,

"a full hundred miles from the nearest land, one sees a loon in the path of the steamer; listens to its weird, maniacal laughter, and sees it slowly sink downward through the green waters, it truly seems a hint of the bird-life of long-past ages."

Again, in the last chapter, which is devoted to the fascinating problems of embryology, we are introduced to the startling idea of an extra sense-organ, probably of sight, which in the remote past all the higher animals possessed somewhere in the centre of the head; and this theory is supported equally by the appearance of the three-day old bird in the egg and by the "soft spot" on the head of a human baby. The organ of vision in a bird is shown to be more perfect than that of any other living creature, most wonderful in enabling its possessor to become far-sighted or near-sighted at will. And yet against the unerring flight of the woodcock, dashing recklessly through the dense covert, we have to put the enormous loss of life in the feathered world caused by telegraph wires and lighthouses. The fact is that man's influence, fatally disturbing, is the one thing which Nature always leaves out of account. When we own ourselves baffled by the subtleties of protective coloration, we receive the timely reminder that

"the few thousands of years during which our race has risen to inheritance of the earth is all too short a time, geologically speaking, for us to flatter ourselves that any of the protective colours of animals were developed on our account."

In this question, as in others, Mr. Beebe warns us that there will always be some glaring exception to any general explanation we may attempt to evolve. We may readily believe that "the number of eggs which a bird lays has been found to bear a definite relation to the amount of danger to which the species is exposed." Such a sound proposition, however, hardly appears to apply to our various tits, in whose families the large infant mortality seems to be directly attributable to the great number of eggs laid and the consequent overcrowding.

There is a most interesting chapter on beaks and bills. Of the various wading birds it is remarked that a collection of their bills would look like a complete set of surgical tools.

The book contains no fewer than 370 illustrations, each of which is inserted with a definite purpose. Most are admirable; they are said to have been chiefly photographed from life by the author, but hardly, we presume, for the most part in a genuinely wild state. Illustrating the framework of the bird we have a most instructive X-ray photograph of a homing pigeon. From a pictorial point of view we especially admire the family of ostrich chicks emerging from their shells. Occasionally the strong lighting has, by the heaviness of the shadows, confused the outline of the specimen, and the head of the golden eagle in fig. 186 is a monstrosity. In fig. 238 the invisibility of the sooty tern on her nest is certainly in part the result of a poor photograph, which is hardly sufficient to illustrate the point in question.

There is a full index, in which we have detected only one trivial slip; "cuckoo" and "curassow" are out of their alphabetical order.

One fact must be again and again apparent in the study of a work of this sort: the greater degree of specialization we find in a species, the nearer it is to extinction. And in this connexion we see the converse of this axiom in the case of the crow tribe generally and of the raven. With a bill nearest in shape to that of the common progenitor *Archæopteryx*, he has also lost nothing by preserving the typical bird's foot, and in plumage has made no steps in the direction of protective colouring. With virtually omnivorous tastes, fertile in cunning and resource, the raven is only abnormal in his brain power; yet, apart from the persecution of man, his position is more firm to-day than that of any other genus.

In a moving appeal against the needless destruction of bird-life, Mr. Beebe has included a fine passage from which we quote the following extract:—

"These brethren of ours, whose clans have so bravely conquered the dangers of millions of years, and at last have gained a foremost

rank in the scale of living creatures, now find themselves face to face with the culminating effort of Nature,—Mankind. They cannot escape from us, though the least among them laughs to scorn our efforts at following through the air. Yet all must return sooner or later to earth for rest and food, and thus all are at our mercy."

Introduction to General Inorganic Chemistry. By Alexander Smith. (Bell & Sons.)—This volume is the outcome of lecture notes on mineral chemistry by the Professor of Chemistry in the University of Chicago. It is intended for the use of students of chemistry in a college, university, or professional school who are simultaneously taking a laboratory course in general chemistry. The arrangement of the matter is somewhat different from that commonly adopted in textbooks, but it is very good.

In the first chapters we have a description of a few typical experiments and a discussion of their chief features, leading to observations on the laws of chemical combination, the uses of symbols, formulæ and equations, and to various simple calculations. Then follow chapters on the preparation and properties of the principal non-metallic elements; interspersed among these, in appropriate positions, when the reader is supposed to be ready for them, are statements and illustrations of the laws and principles underlying chemical phenomena, e.g., the kinetic-molecular hypothesis, theory of solutions, atomic hypothesis, chemical equilibrium, the ionic hypothesis and behaviour of ionic substances, and electrolysis. Of a total of 780 pages, 530 are devoted to non-metallic substances and to the theoretical subjects. A chapter is devoted to 'Some Carbon Compounds,' which gives an account of examples of the most important classes of organic compounds, although the head-lines still refer to 'Inorganic Chemistry.'

In the latter two-thirds of the book ionic nomenclature and notation are often used; occasionally this may be perhaps overdone, as when it is stated (p. 349):—

"Hydroxidion is a colourless substance found only in water and certain other solvents, and is always associated with an equivalent amount of some positive ion. It possesses a soapy taste, and turns red litmus blue, and colourless phenolphthalein pink."

The book is well up to date, and has been written with great care; it contains a short account of radium compounds, and of the decay of an element as illustrated by the various emanations from radium. It appears to be very free from mistakes or misprints, but on p. 31, in the quotation of part of Lavoisier's definition of an element, the word "not" seems to have been omitted. There are over 100 simple figures to illustrate the text. The volume can be heartily recommended to somewhat advanced students and to lecturers on inorganic chemistry.

The Scots Gard'ner. By John Reid. Edited by Alfred H. Hyatt. (Foulis.)—The current interest in gardens and gardening has stirred Mr. Hyatt to edit Reid's seventeenth-century treatise, and issue it with a prefatory introduction by Lord Rosebery. Reid's wise book needed no excuse for republication, for he was one of the first of that line of Scottish gardeners which flourishes and is famous to this day. Lord Rosebery's preface probably has the advantage of drawing attention to the book. It was originally delivered as a speech some years ago, but is not so well suited in its present position, and, to be frank, strikes us as somewhat commonplace.

The World of To-day. By A. R. Hope Moncrieff. (Gresham Publishing Company.)—The present volume deals with Europe and North America, excluding Mexico. In general features it resembles its predecessors, and these we have praised so often that there is little more to be said. There are some slips, but these are insignificant in comparison with the scope of the work. The section on Europe covers less than 100 pages, and is too brief to be satisfactory. Seven pages only are allotted to the British Isles. The description of North America, where homogeneous conditions prevail over wide areas, is much more satisfactory. The illustrations are good.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NOTES.

MR. SIDNEY HARTLAND, who acted as Recorder of the Anthropological Section at the meeting of the British Association in South Africa, and is now President of that Section, has contributed to *Folk-lore* an account of his observations of native customs, with photographs of a Zulu wedding, taken by Mr. H. Balfour, and of a witch doctor's necklace, and of buildings in a Macharanga village near Umtali, Rhodesia, taken by Dr. H. M. Tims. Mr. Hartland gives plans of the internal arrangement of a Zulu and a Manyika hut. Another well-illustrated paper in *Folk-lore* is by Mr. W. L. Hildburgh on Spanish amulets and votive offerings. About 150 specimens are figured in nine plates, and fully described by the owner. Mr. A. B. Cook's contribution to the history of the European Sky-God relates to the King of the Wood as represented in Celtic myths. In a learned paper on custom and belief in Icelandic sagas Miss Winifred Faraday collects the evidence afforded by those sagas as to the gods, heroes, burial customs, tomb-treasures, divination, feasts, sacrifices, and magic of ancient Iceland. Mr. Nutt contributes a useful list of works dealing with the "early institutions" side of folk-lore studies, distinguishing between those relating to early social and to early legal institutions, though these frequently overlap.

Man for February contains an interesting account of the discovery by Mr. David I. Bushnell, jun., of Indian salt-pans, accompanied by many fragments of pottery, upon a site covering more than an acre at Kimmswick, Jefferson County, Missouri. A cylindrical jar and a lid or cover, a bone lance-point, and some objects of shell are figured. The discoverer is of opinion that the place had been abandoned before the arrival of the French in Upper Louisiana. A spirited portrait of Ingava, the recently deceased chief of Rubiana, in the Solomon Islands, is given by permission of Rear-Admiral Davis, with a description of the funeral by Mr. T. W. Edge-Partington, Deputy Commissioner. The widow has to remain in the house of the deceased for 100 days, and is not allowed to put her feet to the ground for the whole of that time.

An interesting discussion is proceeding in *Man* between Mr. Andrew Lang and M. A. van Gennep on the vexed questions of the ideas of the Australian tribes as to birth, reincarnation, and the like. It opened in August last with a review by Mr. Lang of M. van Gennep's 'Mythes et Légendes d'Australie,' replied to in October. Mr. Lang's rejoinder appeared in December, and was met by a further communication from M. van Gennep in February. In commenting on the defects of our information with regard to these matters, the latter observes that some of our best authorities, such as Mr. Howitt, have not given precise information, and that in other cases the

forms in which the questions have been put have not been sufficiently direct to enable us to accept the answers as conclusive.

The Third Congress of the Prehistoric Society of France will be held at Autun from the 13th to the 18th of August. Excursions will be made to Mâcon, to Mont-Auxois (the ancient Alesia), to Mont-Beuvray (the ancient Bibracte), and to Solutré. Dr. Marcel Baudouin, 21, Rue Linné, Paris, is the secretary.

The King has been pleased to command that the Anthropological Institute shall in future be called the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland.

SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Feb. 28.—Viscount Dillon, V.P., in the chair.—The Rev. Oswald J. Reichel communicated a paper on 'The Treasury of God and the Birthright of the Poor.' The paper began by defining the treasury of God as the portion of income or property which every Christian man ought to set aside for religious and charitable purposes. In early times the Church made a very large demand on its members for these purposes, and accepted a tenth part only as the minimum. At Jerusalem and in other cities in which Christianity first took root contributions were required to be made to a central fund, the administration of which was committed to deacons, who thus became a most important body, and divided the amount into four parts, assigned respectively to the bishop, the clergy, the fabric, and the poor. This was the Roman use. The English use was divided into three parts, because the first bishops being monks were forbidden to have separate revenues. When Christianity spread to the West and had gained a hold over the rural population, other methods of administration had to be resorted to. Instead of a central fund and instead of a deacon, the manorial lord had not only to provide, but also to administer, the treasury of God, and the duty of paying contributions to church officials was only very gradually introduced. In France tithes were required to be paid to church officials by the second Council of Mâcon in 585, but in this country the earliest instance of a legally enforced payment is that of churchscot ordered by King Ine's law in 693. After the time of King Alfred various other payments were required to be made to the Church, but most of them seem to have been collected by the manorial lords, who paid a fixed rent for them to the ancient ministers. The commuted rent fell into disuse in troublous times, and had mostly vanished before the Conquest, leaving the new lords free to deal with churchscot and tithes as they thought fit. The three varieties of payments included under the general name of tithes were then distinguished, and after pointing out that lightscot appears to have taken the place of personal tithes, the writer distinguished the so-called small tithes, which formed the chaplain's or mass-priest's share, from the great predial tithes, which the lord collected and was supposed to devote to the poor. To make sure that these tithes reached their proper destination, the Lateran Councils between 1123 and 1179 insisted on their being in clerical hands. Consequently in very many cases these tithes were given by the lords who held them to religious houses. In other cases the lord's steward or a nominee was tonsured to qualify him to hold them as "an ecclesiastical person." At the close of the twelfth century the great and the small tithes still continued to be held apart, as separate benefices, by the ecclesiastical person or parson and the chaplain or vicar respectively. The work of "consolidating" the two benefices in the hands of one person in each parish, who is henceforth called the rector, was effected in the thirteenth century, a large number of instances of consolidation being supplied from the Exeter Episcopal Registers. So far, therefore, from the parochial clergy having been robbed of the great tithes for the benefit of monastic bodies, it is clear that the parochial clergy, other than the parsons of the ancient minsters, never possessed them, and as a matter of fact the consolidation of benefices into rectories has in great measure robbed the poor of their ancient rights.—Mr. Albert Hartshorne exhibited a further

series of damasked linen cloths of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Feb. 19.—Sir Edmund G. Loder, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary read a report on the additions to the menagerie during January.—Dr. C. I. Forsyth Major exhibited remains of a bear from the superficial deposits of a cavern in the mountains of Corsica, where bears, though now extinct, were formerly numerous, at least up to the sixteenth century.—In a paper on 'English Domestic Cats' Mr. R. I. Pocock urged that the surest basis for their classification and the most satisfactory clue to their descent were furnished by the two distinct patterns found in so-called tabby cats.—Dr. C. G. Seligmann, the Society's Pathologist, in presenting his report on the deaths that had occurred among the mammals and birds in the menagerie during 1906, stated that 356 mammals and 283 birds were submitted to post-mortem examination.—Mr. J. T. Cunningham described a peculiarly abnormal specimen of the turbot, captured by Miss Olivia Fox, of Falmouth, near Padstow, on the north coast of Cornwall.—Dr. Baron Francis Nopcea read a communication entitled 'Ideas on the Origin of Flight,' and illustrated his argument with lantern slides showing the hind limbs of various genera of bats, pterosaurs, birds, and dinosaurs, as well as a reconstruction of a hypothetical, cursorial primitive bird.—Mr. F. E. Beddard read a paper on 'The Azygos Veins in the Mammalia.'

MICROSCOPICAL.—Feb. 20.—Lord Avebury, President, in the chair.—Mr. J. W. Gordon read a paper entitled 'An Early Criticism of the Abbe Theory,' written in answer to a paper by Mr. Conrady with the same title, read before the Society on October 17th, 1906. At the conclusion of his paper Mr. Gordon exhibited on the screen some photographs of the spectrum produced by the fine ruling of an Abbe diffraction plate. A discussion followed, in which Mr. Conrady and Mr. Rheinberg took part.—Dr. Hebb read a paper, by Mr. James Murray, on 'Some Tardigrada from the Sikkim Himalaya,' and another, by Dr. Eugène Penard, 'On some Rhizopods from the Sikkim Himalaya.' Mounted specimens of the Tardigrada and Rhizopods were exhibited under microscopes, the species in each case being found in moss obtained at a height of about 3,000 ft. above the sea. Descriptions of mites by Mr. N. D. F. Pearce, and of rotifers by Mr. James Murray, found in the same material, have already been read before the Society.—Dr. Hebb read from Mr. E. M. Nelson an appendix to his paper on the flagella of the tubercle bacillus. Dr. Hebb also read an extract from a letter from Major Sampson, now in Southern Nigeria, describing an incident in ant life that came under his notice. He saw "a thick living arch of travelling ants across a sunny road, and in the centre hundreds of pupæ being carried along in the shade thus caused. This is the more wonderful because the African ant, as a rule, cannot stand the sun at all."—The Society exhibited a number of microscopes, presented by Mr. Peyton T. B. Beale, that had belonged to his father, the late Prof. Lionel S. Beale. Among them were a No. 2 stand, of Powell & Lealand, date 1885; a No. 3 stand by the same firm, date 1848; a tank microscope by Hugh Powell, a stand by W. J. Salmon, and one by W. Matthews.—There was an exhibition of slides, principally of marine life, lent by Mr. Flatters, many of the slides exciting much admiration.

PHILOLOGICAL.—March 1.—The Rev. Prof. Skeat in the chair.—Mr. O. E. Hayes was elected a Member.—Mr. S. Dickson-Brown read a paper on 'William of Waddington's Anglo-French, about 1250 A.D.' The language of William of Waddington's 'Manuel des Pechiez' was characteristic of the period of its composition. It summed up the influences and tendencies which prevailed in England from the time of Edward the Confessor till the reign of Henry III. Owing to political and ecclesiastical events, these influences had been of a widely diversified nature, and representatives of every dialect in France had for one or other reason become domiciled in England. Obviously the strongest influence, as far as the literary remains are concerned, would be that which came through ecclesiastical channels. A language thus transplanted to a foreign soil would of necessity

demand vigorous support from its native land to maintain its position. But this support gradually failed, especially during the latter part of the twelfth century; and as it was not the speech of the main body of the nation, it rapidly underwent a process of degradation in both pronunciation and grammatical forms. This was but natural. Moreover, there could not be any regular line of development such as is looked for in language under ordinary conditions, and some of the changes must have been purely fortuitous. Yet many of these changes were of philological interest, since they indicated and forestalled developments in France itself, for those who used the French language in England would be generally of French extraction. Final syllables, whether belonging to the root or forming inflexions, showed the most marked signs of decadence. The chief reason for this was undoubtedly to be attributed to the essential difference in the tonic accent of the two languages thus thrown together. The tonic accent of French was final, that of England recessive. When the force of the former was lessened, all the nicer distinctions of the French vowels would rapidly disappear. An exhaustive analysis of the rhymes in the 'Manuel' supported this view. Thus the *e*'s of the final syllables were apparently reduced to a uniform vowel of the quality of the *e* in the final syllable of modern English "defer." This applied not only to *e* followed by a consonant, but also to *é*. Close *u* was lost. Final consonants were evidently retained from habit in most cases. In the final group *-str-*, *r* was silent; whilst *s* in final *-st-* was no longer sounded. This loss was not confined to verbal forms, but had extended to root syllables, as proved by the rhyme of "Crist: petit," "Crist: lit." Other losses of interest included the *m* (or *n*) of the first person plural ending *-ums (-oms)*, as instanced by numerous rhymes such as "nus: sauions," "geluz: ueums," "espuz: aums," "nus: deuums." These points were obscured, however, by the scribe's peculiarity in adding an obviously wrong letter to secure symmetry of spelling, as in vv. 2479, 2480, where *s* was added to *un* to secure a parallel to "baruns." It had been frequently asserted that in Anglo-Norman it was possible to add or take away letters at discretion. This was probably true as regards orthography, but clearly such devices could have had no phonetic value. The great number of accurately rhymed couplets would appear to preclude the suggestion that such instances as those quoted above were merely assonances. The 'Manuel' was also marked by the appearance of the vowel combination *au*. It occurred in the past definite of verbs of the first conjugation and in the checked position before a nasal. Stürzinger had given the earliest dated instance of its occurrence as 1266. If this work was rightly attributed to the middle of the century, it might prove a clue to the origin of this interesting development of *a*. The 'Manuel' came from the North Midlands, and this *au* probably represented an attempt to indicate the North-Country pronunciation of *a*, especially when nasalized. The levelling tendency which was so prominent in the phonology was equally marked in the morphology. Case distinction in the noun was absent, and the concord of adjectives was entirely neglected. Demonstrative and personal pronouns of the masculine gender were employed for the feminine, but the opposite rarely occurs. The infinitive of the verb tended to one uniform termination *-er*. It was curious to note the retention of the accentual forms, "parole," "manjue," "deimes," amid such a general weakening of the verbs. The *rr* of the future appeared regularly in very few of the strong verbs, "dire" and "creire" being the most notable in this respect. That *-ent* of the third person plural was still pronounced was evident from the following and similar couplets:—

Les clers qe sunt bien lettré
Seuent quant cheent en peché.

The versification was, however, so irregular that little reliance could be placed on the scansion in isolated cases. The poem showed virtually all the accepted characteristics of the Anglo-Norman dialect, but there appear in it indications of a closer affinity to the Picardian than were usually found in Anglo-Norman poems. But this, as well as many other points remaining to be settled, could be thoroughly investigated only when all the necessary material for an exhaustive examination of the text had been collected. Profs. Skeat and

Gollancz, Dr. Furnivall, and others joined in the discussion on the paper.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Feb. 26.—Sir Alexander Kennedy, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Limits of Thermal Efficiency in Internal-Combustion Engines,' by Mr. Dugald Clerk.

March 5.—Sir Alexander Kennedy, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'The Construction of Overhead Electric Transmission-Lines,' by Mr. A. P. Trotter.—The Council reported that 13 gentlemen had been transferred to the class of Members, and that 15 candidates had been admitted as Students; 7 Members, 12 Associate Members, and 1 Associate were elected.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—March 4.—Sir James Crichton-Browne, Treasurer and V.P., in the chair.—Mrs. Ayton, Mr. S. G. Brown, Mr. W. Duddell, Mr. Horace Duveen, Mr. W. G. Kirkaldy, Mr. J. E. Mounsey, Mr. W. Peacock, Mr. E. H. Rayner, Mr. E. Swash, and Mr. H. Weguelin were elected members.—The Chairman announced the decease of Prof. Henri Moissan, an Honorary Member, on February 20th, and of Mr. L. M. Rate, on February 28th, and resolutions of condolence with the families were passed.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Feb. 26.—Dr. A. C. Haddon, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. A. L. Lewis read a note on a dolmen called 'La Pierre Turquoise' at Presles, France. The monument consists of a chamber, with an entrance, formed by two small stones, which originally supported a third. The roof is composed of nine stones. The axis is between 20 and 25 degrees south of west and north of east. The total length is about 45 ft. The monument appears to have been sepulchral, but rites of some kind were probably performed at it.—Dr. C. S. Myers read a paper on 'The Ethnology of Modern Egypt.' The measurements, notes, and photographs taken in this investigation led to the conclusion (1) that, compared with the "pre-historic" people of 5000 B.C., the modern inhabitants show no sensible difference in head measurements or in the degree of scatter of individual measurements about their average; (2) that the modern Copts throughout Egypt are less negroid than the modern Moslem population; (3) that both the Copts and the Moslems in Upper Egypt are more negroid than those in Lower Egypt; and (4) that from the anthropometric standpoint there is no evidence of plurality of race in modern Egypt.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—March 4.—Mr. J. W. Wilson, V.P., in the chair.—A paper was read on 'The Connaught Bridge, Natal,' by Mr. E. J. Stead, Assistant District Engineer, Public Works Department, Natal.

PHYSICAL.—Feb. 22.—Prof. J. Perry, President, in the chair.—A paper on 'Transformer Indicator Diagrams,' by Prof. T. R. Lyle, was read by Prof. F. T. Trouton.—A paper by Prof. Bragg on 'Ionization of Gases by α -Particles of Radium' was read by the Secretary.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

- MOS.** Society of Arts, 8.—'Romanesque Ornament,' Lecture III, Mr. F. H. Jackson. (Cantor Lecture).
—Geographical, 8.30.—'Journeys in Northern Mesopotamia,' Mr. M. Sykes.
TUES. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Visual Apparatus of Man and Animals,' Lecture V., Prof. W. Stirling.
—Colonial Institute, 8.—'Western Australia and its Resources,' Hon. C. H. Rason.
—Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—Discussion on 'The Construction of Overhead Electric Transmission-Lines.'
—Anthropological Institute, 8.15.—'New Guinea Native Dances,' Dr. C. G. Seligmann.
WED. Central Asian, 4.30.—'The Reform Movement in Persia,' General Sir T. E. Gordon.
—Geological, 8.—'A Silurian Inlier in the Eastern Mendips,' Prof. S. H. Reynolds. 'On Changes of Physical Conditions which take place in Certain Minerals and Igneous Rocks, on the Passage from the Crystalline to the Glassy State,' Mr. J. A. Douglas.
—Society of Arts, 8.—'Medieval Stained Glass, its Production and Decay,' Mr. N. Heaton.
—Dante.—The Persian Dante, Bishop of Salford.
THURS. Royal Institution, 3.—'Biology and Progress,' Lecture I, Dr. C. W. Selye.
—Royal, 4.30.
—Society of Arts, 4.30.—'The City of Madras,' Sir J. Thomson. (Indian Section).
—Institution of Electrical Engineers, 8.—Discussion on 'The Transmission of Electrical Energy by Direct Current on the Series System.'

- THURS.** Society of Antiquaries, 8.30.—'Notes on a Set of Enamelled Knives with the Arms of John the Intrepid, Duke of Burgundy,' 'An Enamelled Head-stall of the Sixteenth Century,' illustrated by a Venetian Picture in the National Gallery; 'Wax Discs engraved with Magical Names and Figures used by Dr. John Dee'; and 'The Opening of the Relic Chest of Leo III. in the Chapel of the Sancta Sanctorum at the Lateran,' Mr. O. M. Dalton.
FRI. Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 8.—'Petrol Motor-Omnibuses,' Mr. W. Worby Beaumont.
—Royal Institution, 9.—'Problems of Applied Chemistry,' Prof. G. Lunge.
SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—'Röntgen, Cathode, and Positive Rays,' Lecture V., Prof. J. J. Thomson.

Science Gossip.

THE ADAMS PRIZE at Cambridge for 1907 has been awarded to Prof. E. W. Brown for his essay on 'The Inequalities of the Moon's Motion due to the Direct Action of the Planets'; the Smith's Prize to Mr. A. S. Eddington, of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, for his paper on 'The Systematic Motions of Stars,' read before the Royal Astronomical Society in November last; and the Isaac Newton Scholarship to Mr. A. R. Hassé, of St. John's College, who proposes to carry on a course of research in physical optics.

MESSRS. WHITTAKER & Co. announce 'A Pocket-Book of Aeronautics,' by Mr. H. W. L. Moedebeck; 'A Treatise on Town Sewerage,' by Mr. H. C. H. Shenton and Mr. H. S. Watson; 'Electricity in Mining,' by Mr. Percy R. Allen; 'The Modern Practice of Coal-Mining,' by Mr. D. Burns and Mr. G. L. Kerr; 'Motor-Car Construction' and 'The Care of Motor-Cars,' both by Mr. T. Gray; 'An Advanced Text-book of Steam, Gas, and Oil Engines,' by Mr. J. W. Hayward; and 'Concrete-Steel Buildings,' by Mr. W. N. Twelvetrees.

DR. JAMES MARTIN BEATTIE, senior assistant to the Professor of Pathology, University of Edinburgh, has been elected by the Council of the University of Sheffield to the Chair of Pathology, vacated by Dr. Cobbett, who has been appointed Lecturer on Bacteriology at Cambridge.

DR. MATHIAS MARIE DUVAL, Professor of Histology at the Paris Faculté de Médecine and at the École d'Anthropologie, died on Friday in last week in his sixty-third year. He was the son of a Strassburg botanist, and in 1885 was appointed to the above-mentioned Chair of "Histologie," where he became famous; he was elected a member of the Académie de Médecine in 1882. Dr. Duval was the author of several works, notably one on the use of the microscope "dans des applications au diagnostic et à la clinique" (1875); a 'Précis de l'Anatomie à l'Usage des Artistes' (1881), and 'Le Darwinisme' (1885); but perhaps his most widely known publication was a study on the brain of Gambetta.

PROF. LUDWIG THOMAS, whose death is announced in his seventieth year, was Director of the Medizinische Poliklinik at Freiburg i. Br., Professor of Pharmacology at the University, and author of several valuable medical works.

MADAME CERASKI, during her examination of photographic plates taken by M. Blajko at the Moscow Observatory, has detected two new variable stars, situated in the constellations Andromeda and Camelopardalis respectively. The former (var. 1, 1907, Andromedæ) is very faint, usually of 12½ magnitude, but occasionally rises to nearly the eleventh. The latter (var. 2, 1907, Camelopardalis) is included in the Bonn 'Durchmusterung' (+69° 417), where it is rated of 8.5 magnitude, from which it diminishes to below 9.5; the period is thought to be short, but cannot yet be determined.

FINE ARTS

The Archaeology of the Cuneiform Inscriptions. By the Rev. A. H. Sayce. (S.P.C.K.)

UNDER this title Prof. Sayce has republished the Rhind Lectures delivered by him in October of last year, and has added thereto an article which appeared in *The Contemporary Review* rather more than a year earlier. The whole forms a sufficiently compact and readable account of cuneiform decipherment and the results to which it has led. Startling as these were in the times of Hincks and Rawlinson, in the sense that they effected a complete revolution in our ideas of the ancient world, the work of the last few years has been hardly less revolutionary, and bids fair to do for the primitive forms of the Aryan tongues what the earlier Assyriology did for those of the Semitic. In his double capacity as a trained philologist and one who has himself conducted excavations, Prof. Sayce is very well equipped for the disentangling of the confusion thus produced in our conceptions of history, and with his well-known gifts of popular exposition, he should, we think, be gladly accepted as a guide for the unlearned through these by-paths of knowledge.

The story of the early history of cuneiform studies, of the reading of the inscription of Darius which gave the key to the meaning of the arrow-headed characters, of the recovery of the annals of the Assyrian empire, and of the growth of the conviction that both Assyrian and Babylonian culture were derived from that of an earlier and Mongoloid race, is too well known to all interested in the subject to need recapitulation here. But Prof. Sayce now carries us a step further back, and endeavours—not without success—to discover whence the Sumerians themselves derived their civilization. The legend of Berosus that it was brought to them by sea-monsters warrants him in declaring that "Babylonian civilization was sea-born," and he is doubtless right when he says that the linear form of the characters on the earliest monuments shows that the original hieroglyphs were carved not in clay, but on wood, and in a country which, unlike Babylonia, was "mountainous and riverless." He is justified, too, in his contention that the extraordinary engineering skill which made a network of canals of the whole Land-between-the-Rivers, and converted Mesopotamia from what was once a malarious swamp into the best-cultivated and most thickly populated spot in the then known world, must have been acquired elsewhere. As to the country from which these first settlers came, he speaks with less certain sound. While admitting that Elam or Susiana, the country lying to the east of Sumer, would answer most of the requirements, and was in historic times inhabited by a race speaking an agglutinative language and once owning Babylonian sway, he seems on the whole to be more inclined to

turn his eyes to the West. His decipherment of the Vannic or proto-Armenian inscriptions enables him to produce many parallels between the Sumerian and Armenian words for metals like gold and lead; and he thinks that the early Babylonian cultivation of the vine, which grows naturally in Armenia, proves that it must have been imported from there. Coupling this with his identification of "the mountain on which the Ark of the Babylonian Noah rested" as Jebel Judi, to the south of Lake Van, he hints that the first Babylonians, or at least their culture, must have come from Armenia. It is a likely guess, and should have far-reaching results.

On another subject which he has made more peculiarly his own Prof. Sayce has much that is new to say. The racial affinities and extent of the Hittite people have long been a puzzle to archaeologists, and the opinion of those most competent to judge has fluctuated between attributing to them a vast empire, able to hold its own alike against Mesopotamia and Egypt, and a confederacy of robber tribes scattered up and down Western Asia, but nowhere gathered into regular kingdoms any more than were the Scottish Highlanders. Their language, too, has hitherto remained as great a mystery as their political constitution, but now Prof. Sayce, whose efforts in the matter have been unrelaxing, is able to announce that this mystery, at any rate, is solved. The discovery of certain cuneiform texts at Boghaz Keui (the classical Pteria) has given him the key to the Hittite hieroglyphs for which he has long sought; and he is able to tell us that the language was substantially the same as that of the letters from Arzawa discovered at Tell el-Amarna, and that although it appears to be related to "Lycian on the one side and Mitannian and Vannic on the other," it "is certainly not an Indo-European language." This is rather difficult to reconcile at first sight with his statement earlier in the book that the Mitannians are evidence that, "like Armenia, Northern Mesopotamia was occupied by a people of Caucasian and Asianic affinities"; but it is explained by his remark in another passage that the idea of Hincks that the Vannic inscriptions were written in an Indo-Germanic language was mistaken, and that "the Vannic language still remains isolated," although it may perhaps resemble the modern Georgian. Prof. Sayce, however, has no doubt that the original name of the Hittites was Kas or the Kasians, that their original seat was in Cappadocia, and that in the time of the Egyptian Eighteenth Dynasty "there were still four Hittite kingdoms in the north: Kas in Asia Minor, the Hittites proper east and south of the Taurus, Mitanni in Mesopotamia, and Naharaim on the Orontes." All these, he thinks, were swallowed up in the Hittite empire which had its capital at Kadesh. Further discussion of this interesting subject is perhaps better left until the full inquiry

into the Hittite language which he promises is before us.

We now come to the parallels between Babylonian and Egyptian civilization, to which Prof. Sayce has devoted much time and attention. He admits that he is prepossessed in favour of a Semitic origin for the culture of Egypt because, when "the patronage of the Berlin Egyptologists had not yet made it fashionable," he asserted that the Egyptian language belonged to the Semitic family of speech. In addition to the evidence of the brick, its stamp, and the cylinder seal in favour of this supposed derivation, he mentions the fresh witness of clay-sealings on Babylonian jars "exactly like those of early Egypt." We have looked through the article in the *Recueil de Travaux* to which he refers us in support of this assertion, and we can find nothing like an Egyptian jar-sealing, the only jar there represented as closed having a stopper like a cork. A better parallel, which he mentions in another connexion, but which does not appear to have struck him, is the fact that, on his authority, Sumerian chairs terminated with curved legs resembling those of an ox, which is exactly the characteristic of the furniture found by M. Amélineau in the First Dynasty tombs at Abydos. Yet if all these parallelisms could be established beyond dispute, there is nothing in them, except perhaps the use of clay, which cannot be explained as due to conscious or unconscious borrowing rather than to derivation; while most of the supposed identities in the ideograms of the two nations put forward by Prof. Hommel are, *pace* Prof. Sayce, too far-fetched to be convincing. Nor do Prof. Sayce's other remarks upon Egyptian matters inspire us with much confidence on this point. He describes the Babylonian mode of dating by events, and then tells us that "an exactly similar system of dating had been adopted in Egypt before the age of the First historical dynasty." In confirmation of this he refers to some unidentified monument "discovered at Hierakonpolis" and to "the ivory tablets disinterred at Abydos." But the ivory tablets in question have not yet been read, and the few remarks on their inscriptions at present published give no support whatever to Prof. Sayce's statement of their contents. In like manner, he says of the Palermo Stone, on which the earliest king mentioned is Khasekhemui, the last of the Second or the first of the Third Dynasty, that on it "the chronology of the Egyptian kings is given from Menes onward." An even more glaring instance of inaccuracy is found in his reference to King Narmer (or, as he prefers to call him, "Nar-Buzau") when he says that "Nar-Buzau is made the immediate predecessor of Menes by Prof. Petrie on grounds to which every archaeologist must assent." Is it possible that Prof. Sayce is ignorant that M. Maspero, in the last edition of his *Histoire Ancienne des Peuples de l'Orient*, speaks of Prof. Petrie as having attempted to classify the kings of the First Dynasty, "mais

sans grand succès"; while Prof. Sethe, of Göttingen, after stating that in his opinion the monuments of Narmer are in no way older than that of Menes, the founder of the dynasty, says frankly that Prof. Petrie has only placed Narmer before Menes because he has no room left for him in the dynasty of the last-named king, after his other so-called identifications?

We believe that it is slips like these which alone prevent Prof. Sayce from occupying that very high rank among European scholars that we all wish him. There is a great deal in these pages about scientific methods of archaeology which seems to be summed up in the advice, "Go and study your pots." But if science be taken in its usual sense of exact knowledge based upon ascertained fact, nothing can be further from it than the habit of stating conjectures as facts, and of catching at any parallel, however wild, which seems to bear out preconceived conclusions. Both these faults are very much in evidence in this volume, and go some way towards spoiling what is one of the most interesting books that Prof. Sayce has written. Yet it should not be forgotten that in this, as in other instances, he has opened the way to more severe and self-critical, though not perhaps better-equipped students than himself, and that to a pioneer, as he claims in his preface, much must be forgiven. The book contains a fair number of illustrations, including two useful maps, and an indifferent index.

MR. W. L. WYLLIE'S WATER-COLOURS.

THESE records at the Fine-Art Society's rooms, of P. and O. cruises "from Spitsbergen to the Golden Horn" show Mr. Wyllie with all his accomplishments, but also with the want of high cultivation on the side of colour that tends in an increased degree to modify our admiration of his work. By an unfortunate irony of circumstance, certain subject-matters that he has been latterly much addicted to—the gay colours of bunting, for example, or the bravery of painted hulls or smoke-stacks—are of a sort that emphasize this defect, as do also subjects of Southern sunlight with impossible blues and the like splendour of sub-tropical effects.

These splendours become rather crude and disjointed in the hands of a painter accustomed, apparently, rather to "match" individual colours than to examine the whole scheme of colour as a living structure, in which parts are as closely related as the wonderful web of fine perspective drawing which he flings so lightly upon paper. We know that, in the hands of an enthusiast and a poet who is willing to push his process of "matching" tones to the utmost perfection of nicety, this less philosophic manner of studying colour may yield the finest results. What is evident is that if the hunter after detailed exactitude relax in the pursuit and become careless and approximate, he who once was a colourist may produce very poor colour indeed. In this show there is a tendency for the bright hues to flash out at once in a thin and unsupported fashion, and the recollection of Mr. Wyllie's stronger work threatens to make us unjust to an extraordinarily capable collection. If performing a difficult task with magical ease

be genius, here we have it. Exact delineation is accomplished with a facility that almost compels belief in its truthfulness; but if it be truth, it is truth to a world of little charm or beauty. *The Temple of Jupiter Olympus, Athens*, is the most marked exception to this indictment. Here is a sunset of rather garish quality, but a dark landscape shows up against it which is admirable, as are the football players who people the classic scene. Notwithstanding all its wealth of interesting detail, the whole is compactly grouped in a pictorial conception of imposing character. In slighter form we see in *Scio, The Straits of Messina*, and *Syracuse* something of the same power of conceiving colours as the tones of a harmony, not the labels of different things in nature. It makes us the more regretful that the man who might be a powerful interpreter of Nature should be content to be a natty recorder of her facts. We have but to look into a collection of the usual tourist's water-colours in the next room, however, to realize that Mr. Wyllie's power of drawing Nature on the move, with insight into the laws of her ever-changing forms, puts him leagues ahead of the purveyor of "travel pictures."

OLD-WORLD GARDENS.

THE exhibition that Mr. E. A. Rowe is showing at Messrs. Dowdeswell's under this familiar title is of the usual character. The fashionable corners of the holiday-makers' world have been given over to painters, and Mr. Rowe, after all, has distinctly more ability than most of them. Indeed, one picture, *The Villa Sciglio, Taormina* (No. 7), is so much better than the others as to be far above the crowd. Picture-dealers' hacks have so misused the title "garden" that its name at the head of a catalogue suggests a fortuitous jumble of an incredible number of unrelated bright colours: the only characteristic, in fact, of a garden that these gentlemen seize on is its pettiness. This little picture of Mr. Rowe's, without being perfect, yet gives some hint of certain other characteristics of an old Southern garden—of bright colours faded by long exposure to the dazzling light, and powdered with an impalpable dust of silver gilded by the sun—of plants and flower-pots and creepers inextricably interlaced, grown to terms of intimacy by long association. The red flowers are a little raw in hue—the green bower a little too green, not partaking enough of the general tendency to crumble that attacks colour in this gently vibrating light; yet here at least is some attempt to render the charm of a subject so irresistibly attractive that the veriest Philistine is not blind to it, though by an irony of fate he is generally encouraged to buy pictures alleged to represent it by painters temperamentally incapable of rendering the charm of golden idleness and the slow-passing hours.

None of the other pictures in this collection have the quality of this one, the quality coming from slow delight in elaboration of sinuous drawing—of delicately encrusted surfaces superficially gleaming in the mild rays of the patient sun—the charm of a task spun out as long as possible, and finished with reluctance. Some of them—such as Nos. 8, 54, and 64—have passages that betray these ambitions, but fall short of performance. Many others, on the contrary, are lamentably perfunctory. As there is a genuine demand for such water-colours illustrating foreign travel, it seems a pity that some artistic impresario does not arise who would take the trouble to get them

done with some sincerity and conviction. There are painters who in smaller quantities could make of the painting of such drawings a labour of love. Even at the risk of earning a slightly smaller percentage, a dealer would be wise to encourage a customer by offering him exquisite things rather than to cure him of his infatuation by inferior stuff, of which he must get tired.

SALE.

At Messrs. Christie's, on the 2nd inst., were sold the following pictures: T. S. Cooper, *A Group of Nine Sheep in a Pasture*, 141*l.*; *Fording the Stream*, cattle crossing a ford, followed by a boy on a donkey, 126*l.* B. W. Leader, *A River Scene*, North Wales, 149*l.*; *The Old Mill*, Streatham-Thames, 136*l.* E. Verboeckhoven, *Ewes, Lambs, Goat, and Poultry*, 194*l.*; *A Peasant driving Sheep, Goat, and Kids*, 173*l.* R. P. Bonington, *Fisher Children and Fish on the Boulogne Coast*, 157*l.* Erskine Nicol, *Kept In*, 110*l.*

Fine-Art Gossip.

'WHISTLER: NOTES AND FOOT-NOTES, AND OTHER MEMORANDA,' with numerous illustrations, by Mr. A. E. Gallatin, will be published this spring by Mr. Elkin Mathews.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA, THE TSAR, THE KING OF DENMARK, and the representatives of the late King Christian are contributing works of Danish art to the exhibition which will be opened at the Guildhall in April.

THIS week the firm of Plon-Nourrit publishes a new album by Caran d'Ache, 'Gros et Détail.'

THE death in his sixty-ninth year is reported from Berlin of the genre painter Wilhelm Diez. His first work was a series of illustrations to Schiller's 'Thirty Years' War,' and he soon became a contributor to *Fliegende Blätter*. In 1872 he was appointed professor at the Munich Academy. His small pictures representing scenes of military life are not unlike Meissonier's in style. He also painted a number of pictures of German life in the past.

A REVISED edition of the Catalogue of the Old Masters Exhibition has been issued recently, in which the various errors pointed out in these columns have been corrected.

THE S. B. GOLDSCHMIDT COLLECTION, consisting of pictures of old masters, to be dispersed by auction on Monday at the Galerie Friedrich Schwarz in Vienna, contains an unusually large number of pictures by artists whose work is rare. We may mention a Holbein-like portrait of Agrippa von Nettesheim by Bartholomæus Bruyn (1493 to 1553-7), and a curious mythological pastoral scene, the joint work of Jan Brueghel and Hendrik van Balen. Jakob Grimm (1526-90), who is represented by a landscape; Othon van Veen, by a portrait of an old lady; Domenicus van Tol, and Johannes Verkolje, are a few of the little-known artists whose work is for sale.

THREE gifts to the Birmingham Art Gallery have just been announced. Mr. B. Cadbury has presented Mr. Holman Hunt's finished study for his picture 'May Morning on Magdalen Tower,' and Mr. Palmer Phillips a typical landscape by Thomas Collier; while by the will of Mr. Charles Machin a fine collection of antique silver is secured.

M. F. LAIR-DUBREUIL dispersed yesterday (Friday) at the Hôtel Drouot one of the most extensive collections ever formed of portraits of Marie Antoinette and the

French Royal family. There were in all 215 lots, which included, in addition to portraits, historical pieces, caricatures, and other pictorial "documents."

THE sculptor Just Bequet, who died last week in his seventy-sixth year, was a native of Besançon, and studied art under Rude. Bequet was a regular exhibitor at the Salon from 1853, and executed numerous busts and other works. One of his best known, 'Faune jouant avec une Panthère,' was purchased by the State for the museum at Tours. His other works include a 'Saint Sébastien,' a 'Christ en Croix,' and 'Sœur Marthe'; whilst among his busts were those of Victor Cousin and Père Ducoudray. The death is also announced, in his sixty-ninth year, of Théodore Weber, the official painter attached to the French Ministère de la Marine.

THE ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION will probably be held at Weymouth this year. The previous Congress in that town took place in 1871.

THE SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY intends to conduct some excavations in April at the Wick Barrow, about eight miles north-west of Bridgwater, in the hope of throwing fresh light on the Danish invasion of Somerset in 878. It is suggested that the unopened mound at one time called the "Hubbelowe" is the burial-place of the Danish chieftain Hubba, who fell in this campaign.

WEST WALTON CHURCH AND TOWER, near Wisbech, are in such a ruinous state that collapse seems inevitable, unless repairs can be quickly carried out. The tower, which is detached from the church, is a fine example of East Anglian architecture, but lightning has struck it twice, and the bells it contains are mute. The church roof lets in rain through the torn leading, and pools of water stagnate on the seats and floor. The carved fifteenth-century roof-timbers have drawn out in some places about eighteen inches from the wall. We are not, therefore, surprised that Dr. Leadbitter, the rector, wants help to "put his house in order."

FINE-ART EXHIBITIONS.

- SAT. (March 9). Miss Burnaby-Atkins's Sketches, 'Meadow, Wood, and Garden,' Private View, Modern Gallery.
— Mr. Simon Bussy's Works, Leighton House.
— Miss Frances Hodgkins's Water-Colours, Mr. Paterson's Gallery.
— International Art Gallery, Exhibition of Coloured Etchings, Oil Paintings, and Water-Colours, Private View.
— M. C. Jouas's 'Paris of Disappearing Paris, and Views of Havre and Biarritz,' Messrs. Graves's Gallery.
— Mr. E. A. Rowe's 'Old-World Gardens,' Dowdeswell Galleries.
— John Ruskin's Drawings and Manuscripts, Private View, Fine-Art Society.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Philharmonic Concert.

THE programme of the second Philharmonic Concert last Thursday week included a Symphony in E flat by Georges Enesco, a young Roumanian composer, who studied both at Vienna and at Paris, winning in 1899 the first violin prize at the latter Conservatoire. The strongest influences at the present day are Wagner, Tchaikowsky, and Strauss, and they are to be felt in the music of this rising composer. The result, as regards the last named, is not altogether beneficial. It is one thing to try to open up new paths as Strauss is doing: his complexities and at times eccentricities are most

probably to some extent a natural consequence of his attempts to extend the boundaries of his art; but he is scarcely a good model. There are many passages in M. Enesco's symphony which are vague and at times ugly, but there are others which show power and promise. The first and last movements are full of life and energy, a good deal of which seems thrown away upon comparatively uninteresting material. The middle slow movement, the most satisfactory of the three, is far more convincing: there is an atmosphere of romance about the music, which, by the way, is scored in a most interesting manner. Dr. F. H. Cowen conducted with marked care, but in a second performance—and the difficult work deserves it—some rough places could perhaps be made plainer.

To praise M. Vladimir de Pachmann as an interpreter of Chopin seems superfluous, but his reading of the solo part of that composer's F minor Concerto was exceptionally fine. The poetry of the work was fully revealed; the technical difficulties were overcome with such consummate ease, and the tone throughout was so pure and beautiful, that it seemed altogether like a fairy dream. The performance of the Larghetto was most fascinating. Orchestra and conductor seemed under the spell of the romantic playing; the accompaniments were given with rare delicacy.

QUEEN'S HALL.—*Blackpool Glee and Madrigal Society.*

THE concert given by the Blackpool Glee and Madrigal Society on Tuesday evening was highly attractive, and we were sorry not to see a larger audience; those present, however, had a rare treat. Byrd in 1590 expressed the opinion that instrumental could not be compared to vocal music "when ye voyces are good and ye same are well sorted and ordered." And that sentence exactly describes the Blackpool choir, consisting of about sixty members. The performances were most artistic, the singing rich and pure, and the gradations of tone most impressive; some of the pianissimos, indeed, were remarkable. Mr. Herbert Whittaker is a fine conductor, and obtains from the singers exactly what he wants without any effort. The programme, altogether unhackneyed, included madrigals and part-songs by Morley, Wilbye, Schumann, Berlioz, Cornelius, Bantock, Elgar, Stanford, and other composers; also songs sung by Mr. Gervase Elwes and Miss Clara Butterworth. Mr. A. Vivian Jackson, the Society's accompanist, ably discharged his duties.

BECHSTEIN HALL.—*M. Godowski's Pianoforte Recital.*

M. GODOWSKI gave a second pianoforte recital last Saturday afternoon. His performance of Weber's Sonata in A flat was clear, brilliant, and masterly, yet not altogether convincing. The pianist created at times a romantic atmosphere—at the opening of the first movement,

and during a considerable part of the Rondo; at other times, however, he seemed guided by head rather than heart. The difference is soon felt, though not easy to describe. Chopin's exceedingly difficult Allegro de Concert, Op. 46, was a triumph for the pianist. Some short old pieces by Corelli, Rameau, and other composers were played with rare delicacy and charm. They were presented by M. Godowski with "free elaboration." The touching-up of old music may not be entirely the right thing, but in the present instance it was at least cleverly done.

SIR AUGUST MANNS.

DEATH has removed the second of the two men who may be termed the founders of the Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts: Sir August Manns died on Friday, March 1st, at the ripe age of eighty-two. It was owing to his efforts and to those of the late Sir George Grove that these concerts acquired European fame, and maintained it for many years.

August Friedrich Manns was born near Stettin in 1825, and, showing a taste for music, he was apprenticed to Urban, the town musician of Elbing, and after a time became a member of the town band. In 1854 a certain Schallehn was appointed director of the music at the Crystal Palace, which was inaugurated in that year. Manns was engaged to play the clarinet in the band, and to act as sub-conductor. On the circumstances which brought about a speedy change we need not dwell. It will suffice to say that in 1855 he became chief conductor, and that soon afterwards the band, hitherto consisting of wind players, was transformed into a full orchestra. In 1895 an official report was drawn up showing that during thirty-nine seasons 1,550 compositions had been given, and 84 British composers represented, against 104 German.

It is difficult, except for those who can remember the palmy days of the Palace Concerts, to appreciate properly the value and interest of the services rendered by Mr. (or, as we should now say, Sir August) Manns. Admirable performances were given of symphonies by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Schumann, and more modern composers; it may, indeed, be said that the best orchestral music written from Mozart to Brahms was produced under the direction of Mr. Manns. Schubert was held in special honour, and thanks to the discoveries of Sir George Grove and Sir (then Mr.) Arthur Sullivan when they visited Vienna in 1867, Mr. Manns was the first to give the 'Unfinished' Symphony, and also the beautiful 'Rosamunde' music. The nine symphonies of Schubert were in fact all heard for the first time in England under his direction, and in chronological order, in 1881, with the exception of the 7th in E, of which the composer left only a sketch, and which, after completion by Mr. John Francis Barnett, was heard in 1883. Already in 1859 Schumann's 'Genoveva' Overture had been produced, and it was soon followed by the composer's symphonies, and this at a time when Schumann's music, like that of his contemporary Wagner, was regarded, by ninety-nine out of every hundred musicians, as formless and totally lacking in melody.

It is difficult now to realize Sir August Manns's services to art. Now that so many excellent orchestral concerts are given in London all the year round, even

those who attended the Palace Concerts in former years are apt to forget what a powerful influence Sir August Manns exerted, directly and indirectly, over musical life in London; while those who have only read about him cannot either duly appreciate the work which he accomplished, or understand the great prejudices which, largely through his perseverance and enthusiasm, were finally removed.

Musical Gossip.

THE JOACHIM QUARTET will give six concerts of chamber music: three on the afternoons of April 13th, 20th, and 24th, and three on the evenings of April 15th, 22nd, and 29th. All will be at Bechstein Hall, except that on April 24th, which will take place at Queen's Hall. An extra concert will be given at Bechstein Hall. The programmes will be devoted to Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven.

MR. W. H. GRATTAN-FLOOD's lecture at the Dublin Museum of Science and Art on 'Harpichords and Early Pianofortes' was interesting on account of its reference to the famous virginal and harpsichord makers who worked in Dublin during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The invention, in the opening years of the last century, of the cabinet piano and of the damper action, is claimed for an Irishman, William Southwell, of Marlborough Street, Dublin.

ON the occasion of the third Bach festival at Eisenach this spring the house in which the composer was born will be opened as a Bach Museum.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

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| SEV. | Sunday Society Concert, 3.30, Queen's Hall. |
| — | Sunday League Concert, 7, Queen's Hall. |
| MON. | Mr. and Mrs. Simon's Vocal Recital, 8, Eolian Hall. |
| — | M. Oskar Back's Violin Recital, 8, Bechstein Hall. |
| — | London Symphony Orchestra Concert, 8, Queen's Hall. |
| — | Madame Rose Koenig's Concert, 8.30, Eolian Hall. |
| TUES. | Mr. Cyril Scott's Composition Concert, 8.30, Bechstein Hall. |
| WED. | Miss Carmen Hill and Mr. Thomson's Recital, 8, Eolian Hall. |
| — | Herr P. Haynd's Violin Recital, 8.15, Bechstein Hall. |
| — | Philharmonic Concert, 8, Queen's Hall. |
| — | Mr. Percy Waller's Pianoforte Recital, 8, Bechstein Hall. |
| THURS. | Twelve o'Clock Concert, noon, Eolian Hall. |
| — | Miss G. Felly's Violin Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall. |
| — | Royal Choral Society, 'The Kingdom,' 8, Albert Hall. |
| — | Broadwood Concert, 8.30, Eolian Hall. |
| FRI. | Miss Shakespeare's Pianoforte Recital, 8.30, Eolian Hall. |
| SAT. | M. Lamond's Pianoforte Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall. |
| — | Queen's Hall Orchestra Concert, 8, Queen's Hall. |
| — | Herr Fritz Kreisler's Violin Recital, 8.30, Crystal Palace. |
| — | Mr. G. Elwes's Vocal Recital, 8, Bechstein Hall. |
| — | Irish Festival Concert, 8, Albert Hall. |

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

DUKE OF YORK'S.—*The Great Conspiracy.*
Adapted from the French of Pierre Berton by Madeleine Lucette Ryley.

AFTER trying its fortune in Paris and New York, the 'Belle Marseillaise' of M. Pierre Berton—on the English version of which has been finally bestowed the title of 'The Great Conspiracy'—has found its way to London, where, thanks to an exemplary cast, its fortunes assume the most brilliant aspect they have hitherto borne. First given at the Ambigu Comique on March 3rd, 1905, the play, which had little to tell of its original home, is rather a study in the line of M. Victorien Sardou than an average Ambigu piece. Like much of Sardou's modern work, it has a quasi-historical background, and a principal character in its action consists of Napoleon before time has begun to solidify his figure, and when he is on the verge of passing from the position of

Consul to that of Emperor. Beginning in fairly commonplace melodrama, it ends in something like comedy, and even in what, in the days of Scribe, might have been regarded as vaudeville. The declension of interest is rapid, and is accompanied by a corresponding diminution of popularity. The whole is, indeed, in no sense a work of dramatic inspiration, but is a piece of conventional fabric. Three characters, or at most four, take part in what has to be regarded as action. A confirmed, though scarcely an energetic royalist, the Marquis de Tallemont has, under the pseudonym of Lacausade, become the proprietor of the restaurant known as La Belle Marseillaise, and, in name at least, the spouse of its beautiful landlady, Jeanne de Briantes. It is but as a home from which to direct plots against Napoleon that the restaurant is employed, and one of the best and most effective of these comes to an abortive end in the opening action. Anything rather than an accomplice of the Marquis de Tallemont is Jeanne de Briantes, who is, on the contrary, in love with Capt. Roger Crisenoy, one of the most devoted of the Emperor's adherents, to whom, after the death of her first and nominal husband, she is married. To her devotion to him, and to the care with which she substitutes innocent for poisoned snuff in a snuff-box, the safety of the Emperor is principally due. In the love-making between Roger and Jeanne the point of highest interest is reached. As interpreted by Mr. Henry Ainley and Miss Irene Vanbrugh these characters are incomparably fresh and fragrant. Of many stage presentations of Napoleon, that by Mr. Hare is the most satisfying. Members of the Court and family of the Emperor—Josephine, Hortense, Pauline, Fouché, Regnier, &c.—may be regarded as mostly the shadows of names. A reception friendly in the main was accorded. Some faint show of opposition was ungracious and unjustified.

Dramatic Gossip.

HEDDA GABLER has hitherto known, so far as this country is concerned, one exponent only, Miss Elizabeth Robins, whose conception from the first was masterly. We shall now, independent of foreign interpreters, such as Signora Duse, be able to point to two, since Mrs. Patrick Campbell, the latest renderer of the character, has made it her own, filling it wholly with her assertive individuality. Tuesday's performance at the Court was in most respects admirable, and exercised a powerful influence over the public. Among prominent features in the cast were the George Tesman of Mr. Trevor Lowe, the Judge Brack of Mr. James Hearn, and the Lövborg of Mr. Laurence Irving.

NEXT Friday the run of 'Antony and Cleopatra' will terminate at His Majesty's Theatre, and the following evening will witness at the same house a revival of 'The Red Lamp' of Outram Tristram. With the latter piece will be given 'The Van Dyck,' a dramatic episode in which Mr. Weedon Grossmith will appear.

On the 20th and 21st inst. Miss Wynne Matthison will appear at the Coronet in her original rôle in 'Everyman,' and will repeat the performance on the 27th and 28th inst.

On April 8th Sir Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore will take part at the Criterion in a revival of 'The Liars.' Following this representation will come that of Mr. H. H. Davies's new play 'The Mollusc.'

A FRENCH season of unusual popularity, though rather devoid of novelty, terminates in rather old-fashioned style with the present week. On Monday, under the management of M. Darcy, a company appeared in 'La Cagnotte' of Labiche, a piece familiar enough, both in England and France, a generation ago; which on Thursday gave place to 'Feu Toupinel,' a very similar work.

THE run of 'Raffles' at the Comedy approaches a close. Shortly after Easter may be anticipated the production at the same house, by Miss Marie Tempest, of 'The Truth,' a new play by Mr. Clyde Fitch.

THE German season at the Great Queen Street Theatre will be confined to three weeks in April. It will begin with 'Die Condottiere,' a four-act play by Rudolf Herzog, to be given by members of the Royal Court Theatre, Munich. Herr Karl William Büller and Frau Bardou Müller will appear in the 'Biberpelz.' Two presentations will also be given of Grillparzer's 'Ahnfrau.'

MESSRS. A. & S. GATTI, of the Vaudeville, have secured a new comedy by Mr. Louis N. Parker.

'THE LILY OF FRANCE' is the title of the play on the subject of Joan of Arc, also by Mr. Parker, in which Miss Viola Tree will shortly appear.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—E. T.—J. E. C. B.—E. H.—R. S.—Received.
J. J. F. J. L.—Many thanks.
E. B. R. (Yale).—We are returning this.
No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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